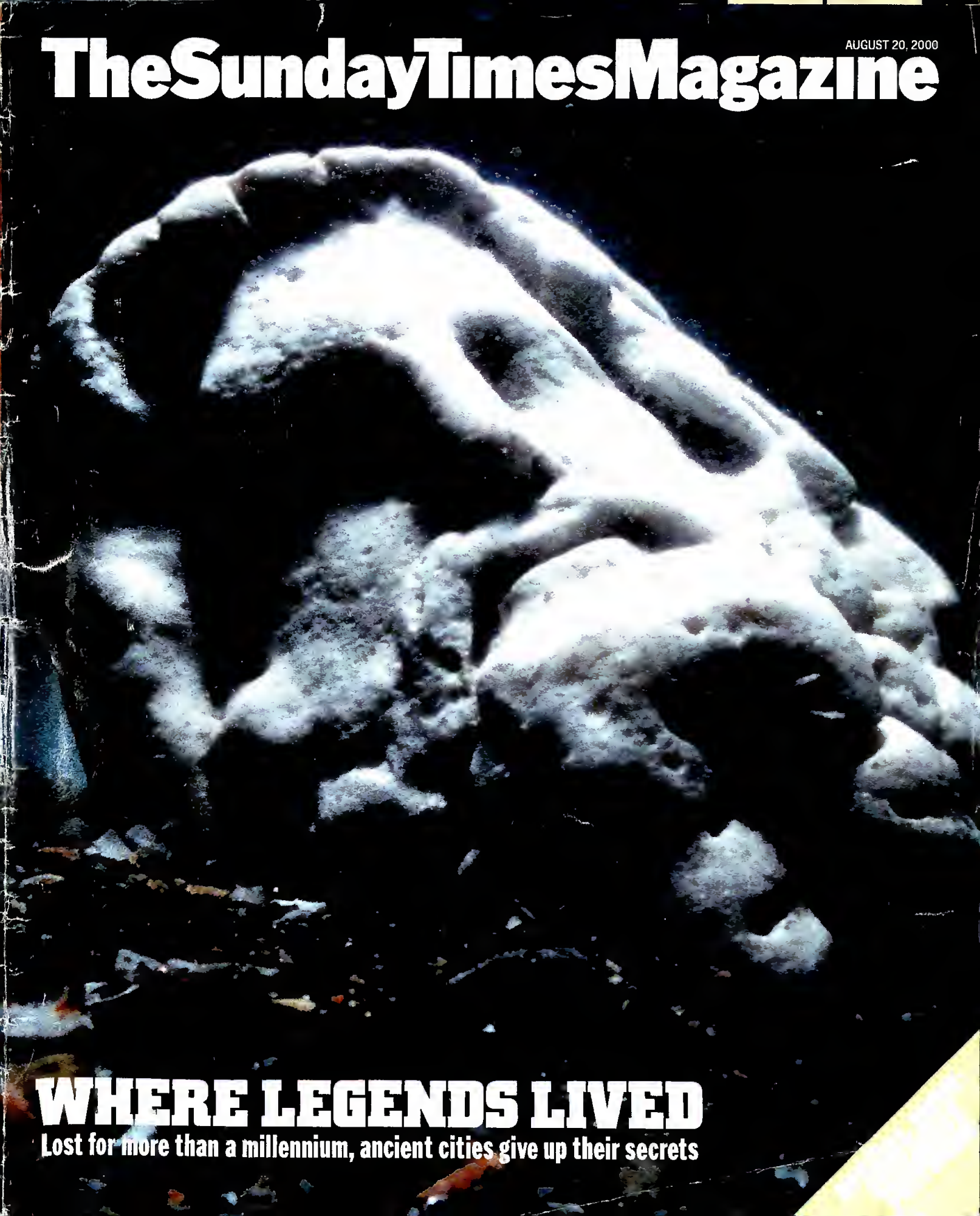
TheSundayTimesMagazine
AUGUST 20, 2000



WHERE LEGENDS LIVED

Lost for more than a millennium, ancient cities give up their secrets

At BMW, agility comes in all sizes. This is because we have always built our cars with rear-wheel drive and near perfect weight distribution. It means our large luxury saloon, the BMW 7 Series, can feel as responsive as our Z3 Roadster. So even though the 7 Series offers the refinement and comfort of a limousine, it also drives like a car built for performance. Which, compared to other cars in this class, is something of a luxury.

You don't have to be small to be agile.

Models featured: BMW Z3 1.8 Roadster available at £19,995 optional wheels, metallic paint and leather upholstery shown. BMW 750i available at £71,450 optional M Sport Pack shown. Ask your dealer for details of available

BMW 7 Series

www.bmw.co.uk
Tel. 0800 325 600

The Ultimate
Driving Machine



options. Prices correct at time of going to press


WHITEHALL
*Trade Mark
"I still like a night out. She still likes a bop.
So why do we take vitamins?"
You turn 50 and – nothing happens. Instead of turning into someone different, you find (surprise, surprise) you still enjoy doing the same things you always have. But one thing does start to change. The balance of vitamins and minerals your body needs.
That's where *Centrum Select 50+** comes in. Its unique formula is designed specially to meet the changing needs of people over 50. So if slowing down's the last thing you intend to do, better get the *Centrum Select 50+* in and live life 100%.
Centrum SELECT 50+
Complete From A to Zinc
BE 100% SURE

Contents

August 20, 2000



SAMIA HAMIDI

Christoph Gerigk found it a challenge to photograph sites of such unique importance as Herakleion and its sister cities, Canopus and Menouthis. 'Currents containing Nile waters can reduce visibility to zero within minutes and the swell causes sands to recover excavated areas. Discoveries are made every day. It is exciting to capture these historical moments on film'



Penelope Evans, a classicist and writer, discovered it was hard to trace the background to the sunken Egyptian cities she writes about on pages 28 and 34. 'Papyrus records give a wonderful picture of life elsewhere in Greek and Roman Eygpt, but in the salty marshes of the delta, these fragile fragments of history simply failed to survive, making the finds of the marine archeologist Franck Goddio all the more fascinating'

Thanks to Professor Judith McKenzie of the Oxford Institute of Archeology; Dr Dominic Montserrat of London University; Jean Yoyotte Emeritus Professor, College de France; and Professor Zsolt Kiss of the Polish Academy of Science for their assistance

Cover photograph by Christoph Gerigk. This page: a member of the Goddio expedition examines the ruins

COVER AND MAIN PHOTOGRAPH THIS PAGE, HILTI FOUNDATION/DISCOVERY CHANNEL/FRANCK GODDIO



LOST CITIES This summer, underwater archeologists discovered a forgotten world off the coast of Egypt. It was once an elegant, bustling mecca for Greeks, Romans and pilgrims. It was here that Helen of Troy fled with Paris and Cleopatra seduced Mark Antony. Then suddenly the cities vanished. This special issue revisits the Nile's ancient scandals, shrines and fallen idols

9 RELATIVE VALUES Edith Hahn Beer, a Jewish woman who survived the Holocaust by marrying a Nazi officer during the second world war, and her daughter, Angela Schlüter, an artist and teacher

16 THE LOST JEWELS OF THE NILE Explorers have opened a chest of stunning treasures, and revealed how Herakleion came to a sticky end beneath the waves

28 THE LAND THAT TIME DROWNED Has a latter-day Indiana Jones changed the map of the ancient world?

36 SHRINE OF THE TIMES The mission to reconstruct one of the most sacred relics of Egypt's lost epoch

40 LA DOLCE VITA ON THE DELTA Did the culture of Canopus and Menouthis rival Sodom and Gomorrah?

45 BEST OF TIMES, WORST OF TIMES The Oxford rowing star Dan Topolski, on the exhilaration of winning one of the greatest of all boat races

50 BRAIN POWER Puzzles, games, mind-benders and riddles worthy of the Sphinx

54 A LIFE IN THE DAY OF the maverick ex-MI6 operative Richard Tomlinson, jailed for planning to write his memoirs

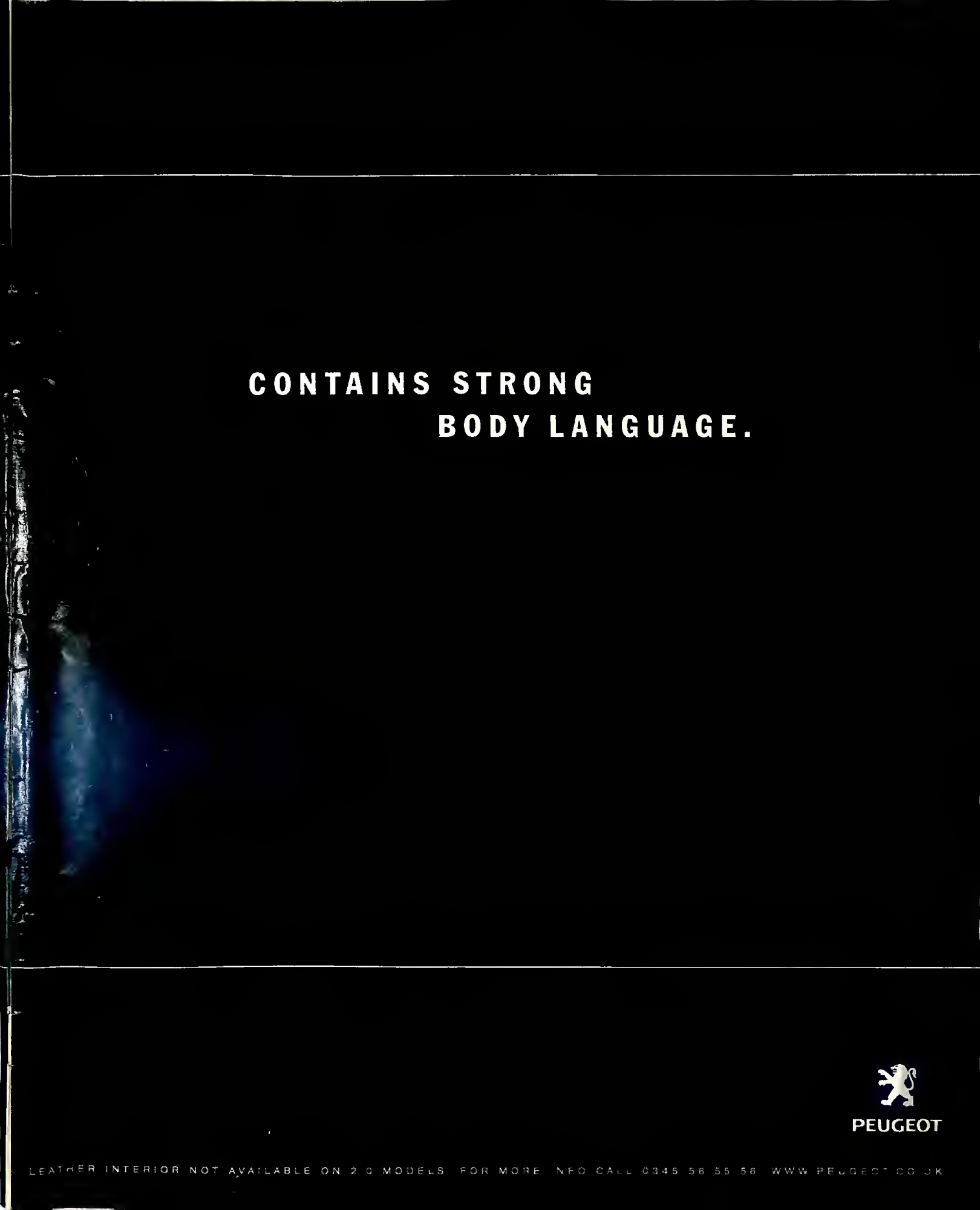
pininfarina



Pininfarina exterior–sumptuous leather interior. Propelled by a 3.0 V6 210bhp engine–stopped by a Brembo 4 piston braking system. Enter the Peugeot 406 Coupé by an electric window lift frameless door. Leave an indelible impression.

PEUGEOT 406 COUPE

FROM £20,900 (2 LITRE) MODEL SHOWN 3.0 V6 FROM £26,020 BREMBO BRAKES AVAILABLE ON 3.0 V6 ONLY


CONTAINS STRONG
BODY LANGUAGE.
PEUGEOT
LEATHER INTERIOR NOT AVAILABLE ON 2.0 MODELS FOR MORE INFO CALL 0345 56 55 56 WWW.PEUGEOT.CO.UK


BUPA
the personal
health service
ANY PROFIT
BUPA MAKES GOES
INTO PROVIDING
MORE HEALTH AND
CARE SERVICES
Because BUPA is a provident association, we don't have shareholders. So we're able to reinvest any profits into providing a wider choice of health services. Like hospitals, physiotherapy units, wellness centres, care homes and homecare. As well as dental and travel schemes. And all these services are available to everyone, not just BUPA members.
For more information, call 0800 00 10 10 quoting 4339 or visit www.bupa.com



RELATIVE VALUES

Edith Hahn Beer, a Jew who survived the war by marrying a Nazi, and her daughter, Angela. Interviews by Sue Fox. Photographs: Harriet Logan



Edith: 'I knew almost nothing about the care of babies, but she was so very good'

Edith Hahn Beer, 86, grew up in Vienna in a middle-class Jewish family. She was forced to leave her law studies for work on a farm, and later in a factory. She survived the war as a "U-boat", after obtaining false papers, and worked for the Red Cross in Munich. There she met and married Werner Vetter, a Nazi who later became an officer in the Wehrmacht. Their daughter, Angela, is thought to be the only Jew born in a Reich hospital in 1944. Edith wrote her recently published memoir, The Nazi Officer's Wife, for her. Edith was divorced in 1948, and she and Angela came to England as refugees from the Russian occupation. Nine years later, Edith remarried. After her husband's death, she emigrated to Israel, and now lives alone in Netanya. Angela Schlüter, 56, an artist and teacher, won a scholarship to the Royal College of Art. Divorced, she has three grown-up children and lives in London.

Edith: As a teenager, I was fascinated by philosophy and politics. I read Mein Kampf when I was studying law, but it appeared so irrational that I disregarded it. But as anti-semitism spread, the humiliation of the Jews became impossible to dismiss.

As assimilated Jews, my family had all the burdens of being Jewish, but none of the strengths – Torah-learning, prayers, the community. We didn't speak Yiddish or Hebrew. What we mostly had was intellect and style. My father died in 1936, and my sisters, Mimi and Hansi, went to live in Palestine. Then Mama and I were evicted from our home so it could be given to an Aryan family. I was forbidden to sit my final law exams and sent to a slave-labour camp in Osterburg in north Germany, where we did backbreaking work in the asparagus fields. Then I was sent to work in a paper factory. I learnt my mother was to be deported on June 9, 1942, but the Gestapo refused to let me travel to Vienna until June 21, and I never saw her again. She left letters for me with Pepi Rosenfeld, my half-Jewish boyfriend in Vienna. His love sustained me all through the months in camp. But in the year I was away, he changed – providing refuge to any fugitive, even his lover, became too great a risk.

My fate depended on the kindness of others. My Aryan girlfriend, Grete Denner, didn't hesitate when I asked if she would give me her papers. She had to claim to the authorities that they had been lost while she was rowing on the Danube. If she had been found out, she would have been sent to a concentration camp. With my new identity, I left Vienna for Munich. Pepi came to see me off and gave me a book of poems by Goethe that he had bound himself. Inside the binding, he put my real papers – the ones that said I was Edith Hahn, Jewess, resident of Vienna – together with my qualifications as a junior barrister. We never kissed goodbye.

Having murdered the personality I was born with, I became someone else – a friendly but distant girl who listened but seldom spoke. I met Werner on Goethe's birthday, August 28, 1942, at a Munich art gallery. He was on holiday from the Arado aircraft factory in Brandenburg, where he supervised the paint department. He asked me to lunch, and I met him the next day. It was the first time I had ever agreed to meet any German twice. We spent the next few days together. Even now, I'm astounded when I think of the risk I took. But I liked him. He made me feel like a woman again. Barely a week after we'd met, Werner asked me to marry him. I told him I was Jewish. It was a risk, but my whole life was a risk. I trusted him, because I saw he loved me.

After I admitted I was Jewish, he said we were even, because he had lied to me – he was still in the middle of his divorce. The four-year-old niece he had talked about was really his daughter, Bärbl. Werner was a complex man, and I think he got a sense of freedom from lying. He had made up his mind to marry me, and I thought that by being with him – a little *Hausfrau*, living with a member of the Nazi party – I would be better hidden.

By the time I was pregnant with Angela, I had gone from being the most despised creature in the Third Reich – a hunted Jewish slave girl dodging a transport to Poland – to becoming one of its most valued citizens, a breeding housewife. Breeding for Germany. When I went into labour I walked through the streets →



The New Trooper Insignia. For those who like their salmon wild and their 4x4 civilised.

In this Trooper, luxury runs wild. Counting fine leather seats, automatic climate control and a 4 disc CD autochanger amongst its multitude of superior appointments. The new 4 x 4 Trooper Insignia. Now, wherever you're angling on going, you'll never have to leave civilisation behind.

AVAILABLE IN 3.5 215 PS PETROL OR 3.0 159 PS DIESEL TURBO

The High Performance Trooper.

It's where you want to be.

ISUZU

PHONE 08705 100586 OR VISIT WWW.ISUZU.CO.UK FOR AN INFORMATION PACK. ALL CARS MARKETED BY ISUZU (UK) LIMITED CARRY A 3 YEAR/60,000 MILE WARRANTY (WHICHEVER COMES FIRST) & 3 YEARS' HOME & ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE. ON THE ROAD PRICES FROM £29,950. CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.
CITATION & INSIGNIA ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF INTERNATIONAL MOTORS LTD



of Brandenburg with Werner, in the dark, to the hospital. As a nursing assistant, I'd seen patients coming out of surgery or sedated during childbirth who said things that could have incriminated them or their loved ones. So I knew I couldn't take anything for the pain. God forbid I might say the word "Jew".

At first I had difficulty feeding Angela. I knew almost nothing about babies, but she was so very good. I think she was a gift from God. All I wanted was a good life for her. Somehow I clung onto the hope that the Nazi time would soon be over and life would be normal for ber. I lived on bope. I no longer had any family – Angela was everything. I wanted to survive and give my daughter a future.

On the day I left Germany for England, I had a small bandbag, the clothes we were wearing and one extra dress for Angela. I found work as a bousemaid, and at school Angela learnt English very quickly. On the first day, she came home and told me she'd taught the class how to say "*Fünf Minuten*" – five minutes. For me, London was like another planet, but everything was easy for Angela. She went to four different primary schools, and she just accepted it. I didn't tell her I had divorced her father. I just said that he wasn't able to live in England because he didn't have permission to work here. Sbe never questiooed it.

When Angela passed her 11-plus, I was so happy, so proud of her. It was about that time that I told her Werner and I were divorced, though I kept in touch with him for her sake. I met Fred, my second husband, two years later. He asked me to marry him, but I said I would have to ask Angela first. Sbe gave me her consent.

When Angela was 16, I read about an academic-exchange programme. I wanted her to learn German properly, so I asked her head teacher if she would allow ber to have a term abroad. I also thought she should get to know her father, although I had never told her anything about my life, or that he was a Nazi. I should have told her, but I was always motivated by wanting to create a oormal home and family for her. I knew one day she would have to find out.

Pepi kept all my letters and documents. And after his death, a few years ago, when the papers came back to me, Angela learnt the truth. Reading those letters and papers has deepened our relationship. It was her need to know, and the loving spirit of her ioquiry, that inspired me to write the book and tell my story.

I know Angela's resilient and resourceful and able to cope, but of course I wish the situation had been different and that she hadn't married a German. It wasn't what I expected, but I didn't want to interfere: I've seen the damage interfering parents can do. Pepi's mother was a strong influence on him. The focus of my life was my love affair with Pepi, but the Nazis and his mother destroyed it. They made him afraid of me.

Angela: I was surely the only Jewish child to have been welcomed by a toomful of Nazi doctors as another child for Hitler. But I was already married, with a child of my own, before I ever saw my birth certificate, the one with my mother's other identity. On it was a big swastika – seeing it sent shivers down my spine. All I could do was put it away. I didn't say anything to ber – I didn't want to insult her. Now I know the deprivations I had as a child, I can't go to Holocaust museums or look at photographs of that time.

Publishing the book has brought my mother and me closer together. It was painful for her, but also liberating. It's made me aware of so much that I was never aware of as a child, and made me try to understand the nature of anti-semitism. Although I have been offered counselling to try and come to terms with my personal history, I don't want it. I feel it would be like opening a Pandora's box.

Mother has oo idea of the date when my grandmother died. So every Yom Kippur [Day of Atonement] she lights a candle for her. When I was little and had a birthday, she wrote me six birthday cards and signed them from my dead family. There was one from my grandmother, from aunts and uncles. When I asked about these people, she said they were in Austria. She did this every year until I was 10 and I caught her out. Sbe used to go downstairs and put them in the communal letter box before I was up. One year, oo a Sunday, I said, "The postman doesn't come on Sundays," to which she answered: "He's come specially for you." Sbe never wrote those birthday cards again.

I have no memories of the time when we fled to England, but I know I kept asking: "When are we going home?" As soon as I went to school, everything changed. I loved it, and I learnt English very quickly. As a six-year-old, I knew Mother didn't speak English as well as I could. Whenever we took the bus, I bought the tickets, I did the talking. Our weekly outings were always to the library, because it was free. I still adore libraries and bookshops. I looked forward to *cheder* [Jewish religious classes] and to synagogue. I've always enjoyed the Jewish part of my life, but because we were living oo the breadline, these activities were also a form of entertainment for me.

For the first 10 years, we lived in abject poverty. We had one large attic room, a tiny kitchen, and we shared a milet with four families. School bolidays were a nightmare because my mother had to work, so she sent me away on Jewish Board of Guardians charity holidays. There was a gas fire, but I wasn't allowed to put it on. In winter, icicles appeared on the inside of the windows, so I'd stay in bed all day wrapped in a quilt. I read, I did puzzles and I drew. Like all children, I took my surroundings for granted. My mother oever complained. Instead, she always managed m convey to me that she absolutely adored me. She instilled in me an understanding that *things* are not important. It's what's inside that matters. When I was a mother with small children, we were united by our passion for dressmaking and the latest fashions. We loved to sew. And it was my mother who gave me that creativity, because I had to learn bow to do things on my own – sitting still, not making a ooise.

Because I never came into contact with any men – Mother had no male friends before she met my stepfather – they were important to me. At school, if we had to write about a puppy, say, mine would begin: "Mr Puppy..." One day my friend Andrea Leroy invited me to her house, and I told my mother that "Mr Leroy" had invited me to tea.

I've had nothing to do with my father for 20 years. The authorities haven't notified me of his death, so I presume be's still alive. He had a tendency to flare up into instant rages. He probably hit my mother. I believe when I was about three I said something to my mother like: "I'll tell *Vati* [Daddy] and then he'll hit you." I'm extremely grateful they divorced. My father came to London in 1948, and again a couple of years later. He gave me a doll. It was terrifying when he picked me up, because I'd never been carried before – my mother was so undernourished, she simply wasn't strong enough. Being held by this huge man was shocking to me.

I SAW MY BIRTH CERTIFICATE. ON IT WAS A BIG SWASTIKA

Until my mother remarried, she had no life. But since the age of 42, the second half of her life has been very positive. My stepfather was a widower and also a refugee. They understood each other. He loved me, and later be loved my children.

After GCE exams, my mother suggested I spend a term at school in Germany and also get to know my father. On my second day, he told me he was a member of the Nazi party and started foul-mouthing my mother, but I put it all aside. She'd never said anything bad about him. On the first day of school in Germany, I remember standing in the kitchen with him and his wife, Margaret, thinking I was being very adult saying I didn't want to go to Christian religious classes because I didn't want to be pointed at. Suddenly, my father hit me on my left cheek. I'd never been hit before. He hit me with such force I ended up on the other side of the room. A few years later, I needed surgery. I still have problems with my jaw joint. But I didn't want to run home and disappoint my mother, so I stayed in Germany. I never told my mother about being hit until I had the operation. I didn't have confidence that she would have stood up for me. I always felt that whatever happened to me was my fault.

Two years later, I went back m Germany to see the friends I'd made at school. My father and Margaret invited me to join them on boliday in Italy. He was lavish with presents, but he never won my love. On my wedding day, I sent him a card announcing my marriage, knowing he wouldn't be able to be there. Hate is too active an emotion. He means nothing to me.

My mother and I have our rows. I'm very much my own person, as stubborn as she is. But since I've known the truth, there's been something much deeper between us. The fact that she didn't tell me has blighted my life. There's no second chance. I'd never have married a German if I'd known the truth. She should have told me, but Werner loved her and I understand what 10 years of Hitler did to her. She's unbelievably introverted about feelings, but she has a great sense of loyalty. I have the impression that Grete, the woman she pretended to be, loved Werner Vetter, but Edith never did. She looked after him very well, but it was in her interests to do so. Pepi Rosenfeld was the real love of her life ■

bp



BP, Amoco, ARCO, Castrol.
What does it add up to?

It means a new company able to offer global energy solutions.

It means the retail presence to serve 10 million customers a day.

It means a company that makes petrol and diesel that produce lower emissions.

It means the world's leading producer of solar power.

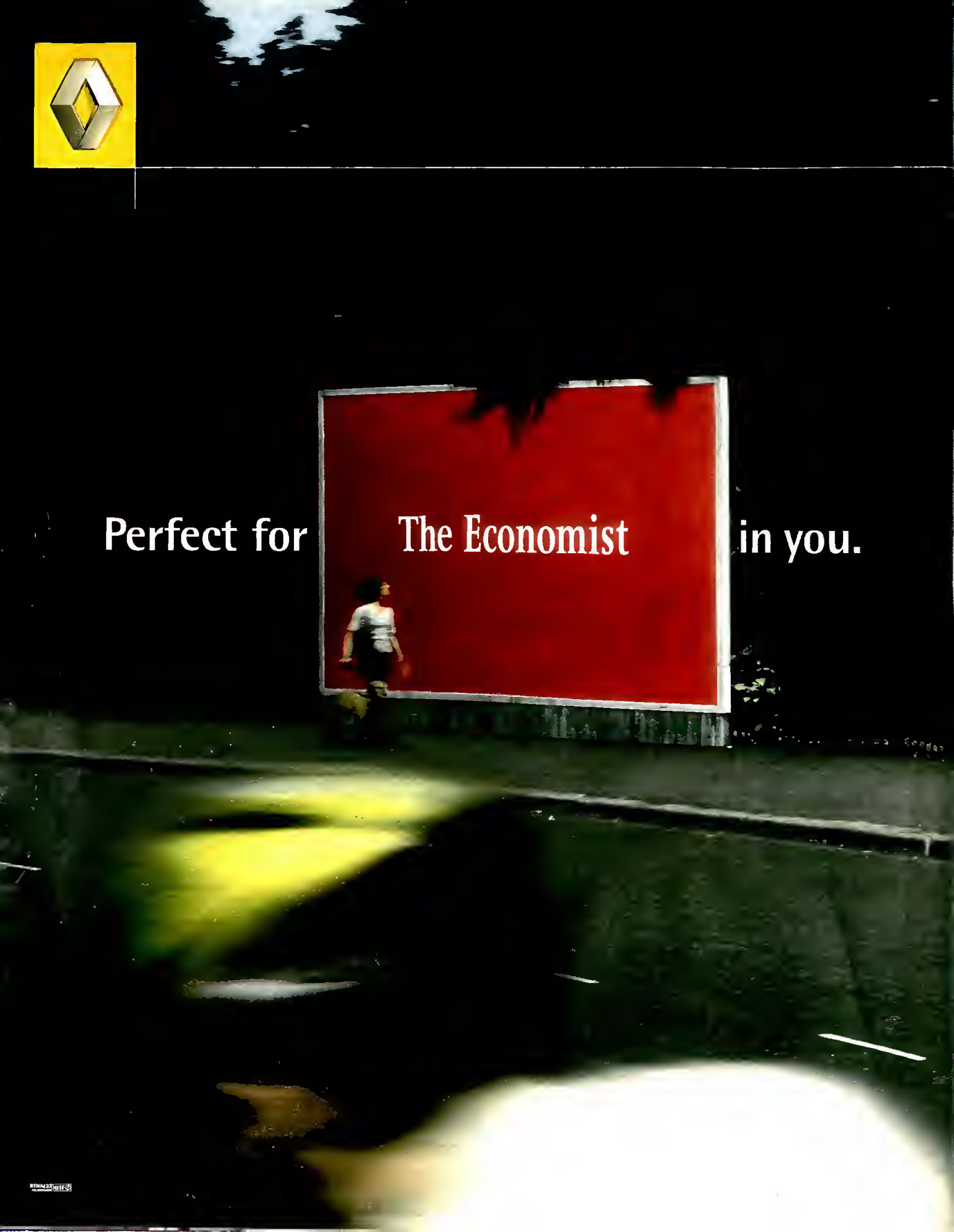
It means the talent and resources to go beyond what people expect.

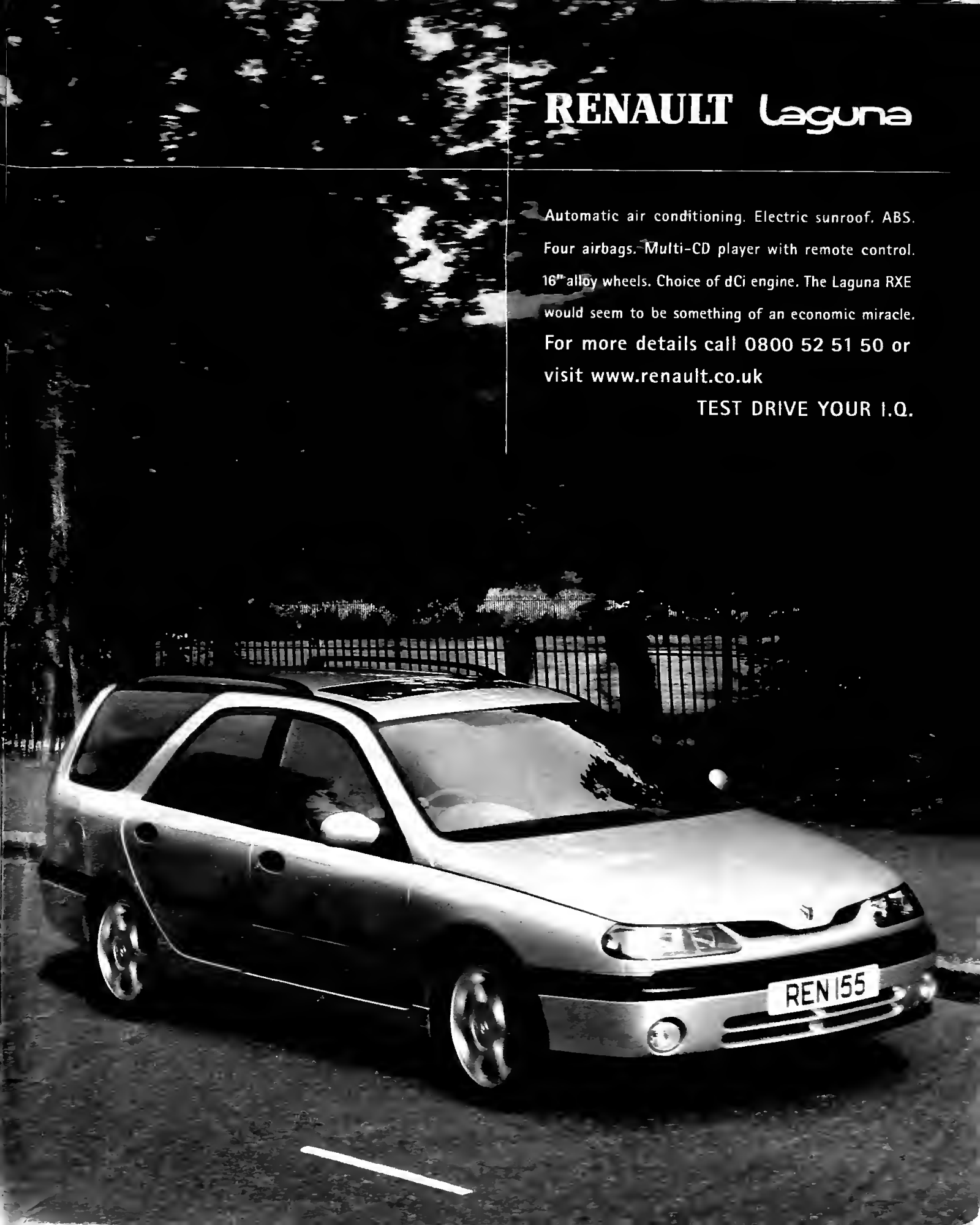
Today, 100,000 employees in 100 countries join together to form a new company called BP. Tomorrow, we begin building a new brand of progress for the world.

beyond petroleum

www.bp.com

© 2000 BP Amoco p l c


Perfect for
The Economist
in you.

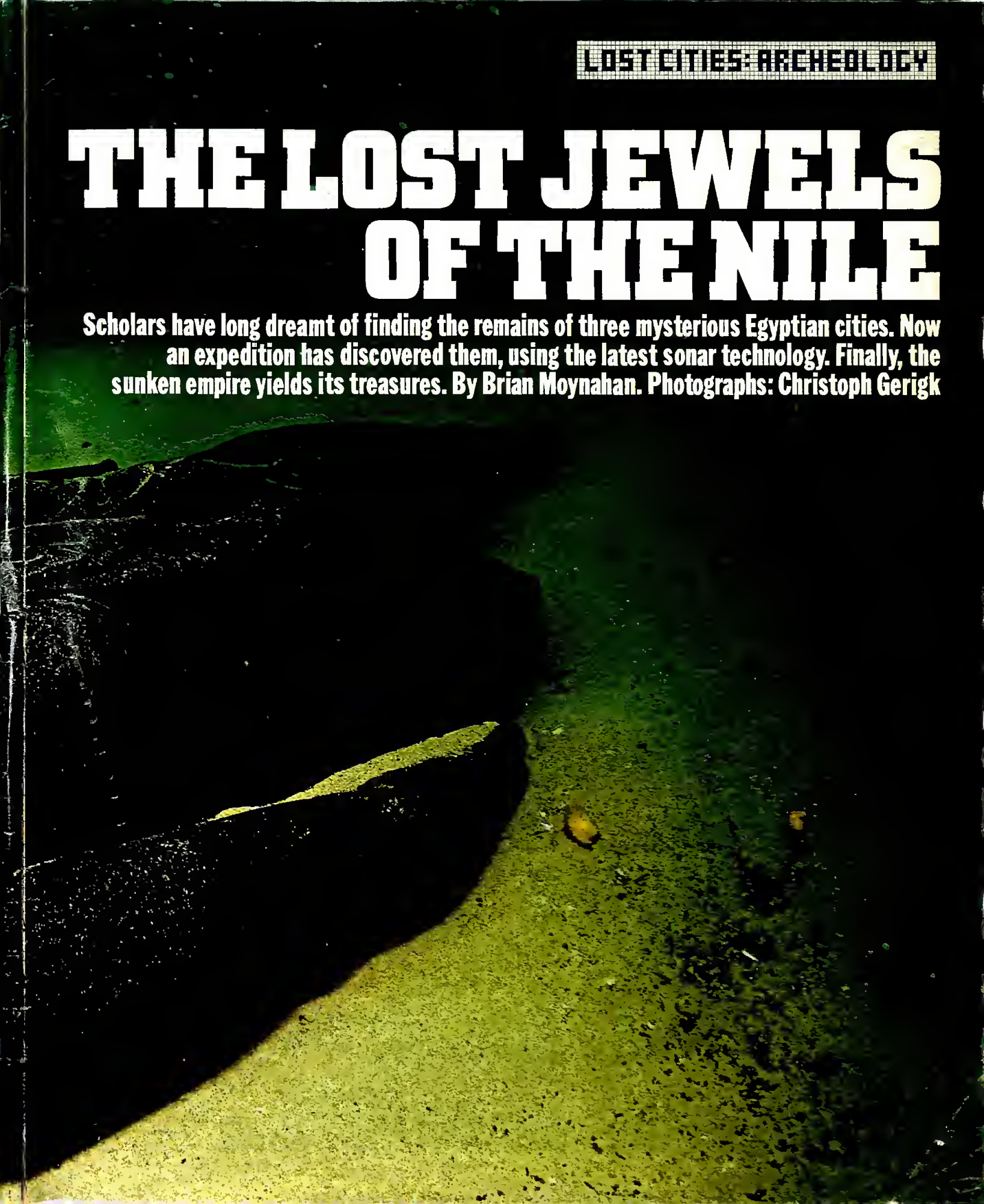

RENAULT Laguna
Automatic air conditioning. Electric sunroof. ABS. Four airbags. Multi-CD player with remote control. 16" alloy wheels. Choice of dCi engine. The Laguna RXE would seem to be something of an economic miracle.
For more details call 0800 52 51 50 or visit www.renault.co.uk
TEST DRIVE YOUR I.Q.
REN 155



One of Franck Goddio's team with the statue of Isis, the ancient Egyptian fertility goddess, in the Bay of Aboukir

THE LOST JEWELS OF THE NILE

Scholars have long dreamt of finding the remains of three mysterious Egyptian cities. Now an expedition has discovered them, using the latest sonar technology. Finally, the sunken empire yields its treasures. By Brian Moynahan. Photographs: Christoph Gerigk











PHOTOGRAPHS HILTI FOUNDATION/DISCOVERY CHANNEL/FRANCK GODDIO

Above left: a granite head, 32cm high, found in Menouthis. The features are clearly visible, a rare occurrance with thesa statues. Above right: a diver examines a fragment of the Naos of the Decades shrine, one of the most significant finds of this expedition. Far left: an amphora, probably used to store wine. Left: another huge statue is carefully winched to the surfaca. All the artefacts will eventually be displayed in the Greco-Roman Museum in Alexandria



About 1,300 years ago, to the west of the Nile delta, three ancient cities were lost to silt and the sea. The fate of Canopus, Menouthis and Herakleion was shared by the drowned royal quarter of Alexandria. Here, Antony and Cleopatra played out their doomed love, pilgrims sought solace, day trippers came for pleasure, and idols of exquisite sculpture were worshipped in the great centres of pagan cults. The temples of Canopus, built for the adoration of Serapis, Osiris and Isis, were renowned for their wealth and miracle cures. When Christians came to destroy the shrines of Herakleion, and to replace them with their own, they removed the false idols by the camel load.

The cities were open to the dominant civilisations: Greek, Roman, Persian, Byzantine and, at their last gasp, Islamic. Some time after the Muslim invasion of the mid-7th century, the cities vanished. Whether the catastrophe was sudden, by earthquake and tidal wave, or a gradual process, by sinking and silting, is not yet certain; but there was hope that, like sunken ships, the cities had disappeared with their cargo of columns, monuments, carvings of gods and other sacred treasures intact. But first, they had to be found.

The search ended with nuclear magnetic resonance finders, sidescan sonars, echo sounders and acoustic positioning systems – and a boatful of experts who knew how to use them. "But it started in the library," says Franck Goddio, the Indiana Jones of underwater archeology, "with the accounts of ancient writers and travellers, and inscriptions in hieroglyphics and Greek."

Goddio has located Canopus, and has discovered Menouthis and Herakleion lying at depths between 20 and 33ft beneath the Bay of Abukir. His divers are also working in the submerged area of Alexandria.

"The remains of a whole city are frozen in time at Herakleion," he says. "It is a superb virgin site. Life stopped suddenly, as if the city was struck by an earthquake or tidal waves. Houses, harbour, temples and monumental statuary are as they were at the point of destruction. Wall blocks lie tumbled like dominoes."

A now-defunct branch of the Nile, the Canopic arm once ran into the Mediterranean, west of surviving tributaries. Herakleion lay at the mouth of the arm, with Canopus and its suburb of Menouthis further upriver.

When the Greek historian Herodotus visited Herakleion in about 450BC, it was the main Egyptian port and a thriving merchant city. Herodotus wrote that Menelaus, king of the Spartans, had landed there with his wife, Helen of Troy. Her abduction by Paris, son of Priam, king of Troy, was the cause of the Trojan war, the subject of Homer's Iliad. After defeating the Trojans with his brother, Menelaus recovered Helen and stopped at Herakleion on his return to Sparta. In the legend, his helmsman, Canopus. was bitten by a viper and became a god. He and his wife, Menouthis, gave their names ro the other cities where Goddio's teams are working.

Canopus was best known for its elaborate Temple of Serapis. This god was fashioned as a composite of ➳



A royal head made of diorite, from the 26th dynasty of pharaohs, is filmed by members of the marine archeology team. Many of the underwater discoveries have been made using high-quality scanning equipment, which highlights objects within a 50-metre band either side of the research ship



the two grandest Egyptian cult figures, Osiris and Apis, by Ptolemy I, the general of Alexander the Great, on whose death in 323BC he obtained Egypt.

Strabo, the Greek geographer, visited Canopus during his journeys along the Nile in about 24BC. Crowds travelled along the canal linking it to Alexandria, he recorded, "for nothing more than sheer enjoyment. Because every day it is filled with men and women who give in to the light-hearted song and dance or turn to the taverns on the shores of the channel". Sixty years or so later, the stern Stoic philosopher Seneca condemned these delights as moral depravity.

In AD324, as Christianity became the state religion of the Roman Empire, zealots smashed the idols of their pagan past. The Naos of the Decades, a black granite shrine from the 4th century BC, was shattered by Christians who condemned it as a place of demonic superstition, and its fragments were widely dispersed. The Temple of Serapis was destroyed, and churches were built to house the relics of saints martyred during the Diocletian persecution of Christians in the early 4th century. The bones of St Cyr were to give the Bay of Abukir its name, for Abukir means "Father Cyril" in Arabic. Idols of all kinds – especially dogs, cats, apes, crocodiles and reptiles, because in former times the Egyptians venerated animals – were taken on 20 camels from Menouthis to Alexandria, presumably for destruction.

In the 640s, Muslim Arabs conquered Egypt from the Byzantine empire, and about a century later, the cities had vanished.

Goddio had more recent clues to work with. In 1777, the naturalist Sonnini de Manoncour discovered the pyramid-shaped top of the naos in the sands on the beach near Abukir village. The stone fragment found its way to the Louvre in Paris after 1815. The existence of the Canopic arm of the Nile was confirmed soon afterwards by depth-soundings carried out by engineers of Ferdinand de Lesseps's Suez Canal Company in 1859.

'IT IS A SUPERB VIRGIN SITE. A WHOLE CITY IS FROZEN IN TIME'

Pilots flying from the RAF base at Abukir observed ruins beneath the bay in 1933. Prince Omar Tousson, a local landowner and an expert on the Nile delta, sent divers to find out if this was Menouthis. It was; they recovered a head of Alexander the Great. Seven years later, Tousson's divers recovered two great slabs of stone from the base and back of the naos, which were exhibited at the Greco-Roman Museum in Alexandria. It was not until 1952, however, that it was realised that the fragment in the Louvre was the top of the same naos.

Goddio's own journey to Abukir Bay began 16 years ago. He was trained as a mathematician and statistician, not as an archeologist. He first worked as a financial consultant to the United Nations, and for national organisations such as the Saudi Arabian Development Fund. His financial acumen still serves him in good stead. Underwater exploration is no longer a matter of chucking a diver overboard and hoping he comes up with something. It is an exacting, expensive business, normally undertaken by deep-pocketed oil companies and government departments, and only possible with the skilful juggling of sponsors and research bodies.

Goddio's career change occurred in 1984 when he was 36. He was invited to join a French group that had found l'Orient, Napoleon's flagship, which was sunk by Nelson in the Battle of the Nile off Abukir Bay on ⋙→





Above: the white marble head of the god Serapis is lifted to the surface. The head, which dates from the 2nd century BC, is 54cm high, which means the statue would have been around 4.5m high. It is probably from the Temple of Serapis in Canopus, a focal point for pilgrim worship. Right: a Ptolemaic column, carved with a lotus and papyrus design. Far right: Franck Goddio, leader of the expedition, examines a headless stone sphinx aboard the rescue vessel





THE END OF AN ERA

A cocktail of natural phenomena and human neglect is the most likely cause for the drowning of the cities and the Canopic branch of the Nile on which they stood. They were vulnerable to earthquakes, tidal waves and subsidence. Economic decline, aided by the foundation of Constantinople as a regional rival, then by the rise of Cairo after the Islamic conquest, may have led to the neglect of sea defences.
Seismic earthquake tremors can cause tidal waves, or tsunamis, as well as inflicting immediate damage. Waves can rise to over 50ft when they enter shallow waters, and can flood coastal cities to a great depth. Land may subside by several feet due to earthquake activity, and rivers can be diverted. A series of violent tremors around New Madrid in Missouri in 1811-12, for example, rerouted the Mississippi.
The lost cities lie at the northern end of a seismically active zone, the Northern Red Sea-Gulf of Suez-Cairo-Alexandria Clysmic Trend. This is caused by continuing sea floor-spreading in the Red Sea, which produces small-to-medium earthquakes. The very deep and soft alluvial soil of the Nile delta picks up and amplifies low-frequency shaking from distant earthquakes, so that the delta is severely affected even when the epicentre is as far away as Greece.
A rise in sea level and subsidence may also have played a part in submerging the Canopic distributary of the Nile. The delta here, now reduced to its Rosetta and Damietta distributaries, is still subsiding. The siting of the lost cities on a shallow shoreline made them particular prey for tsunamis. In 221BC, a strong earthquake to the west of the delta was reported to have destroyed many settlements. Another in 32BC, which toppled the temples of Thebes, was accompanied by a tsunami. Other violent shocks in AD93 were due to an earthquake with an epicentre in Thrace, Greece. Great damage and loss of life were reported in Alexandria in AD320. On July 21, 365, a devastating tsunami swept into the city following an earthquake with a probable epicentre on the southwestern coast of Cyprus.
A lack of trade after the Islamic conquest of AD642, when commercial links with the Byzantine empire were partly severed, may have dried up funds used for essential sea defences. After the foundation of Alexandria in 332BC, a mile-long mole was built to the island of Pharos to protect the harbour. The lighthouse at Pharos, 440ft high and built around 280BC, was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. It is known that a large earthquake on January 18, 746 was followed by a tsunami. Another earthquake in April 796 destroyed the spire of the lighthouse.
Could a single cataclysmic event, perhaps the tsunami of 746, have destroyed the cities? Herakleion was in the most exposed position, and Goddio's teams have found no artefacts of later than about 750. Though the destruction of Canopus and Menouthis may have been drawn out, the disappearance of the Pharos lighthouse shows that the process was inexorable. At least 20 damaging earthquakes and tsunamis were recorded in the Nile delta between 796 and 1302, and a large earthquake off the Egyptian coast in July or August 1303 caused severe tsunami damage in Alexandria. Most of the surviving stump of the Pharos lighthouse and a large part of the city walls were destroyed, and the Nile overflowed up to Thebes. Famous mosques were destroyed in Cairo and buildings along the Nile were damaged. Half of Alexandria was said to have been submerged, and the aftershocks lasted for 40 days.
A large earthquake off Malta in 1343 may have administered the final *coup de grâce*. Just 17 years previously, the great Arab traveller Ibn Battutah visited the city, and said that he could reach the first floor of the Pharos. Returning in 1349, he reported: "Everything has collapsed." After the earthquake, the sea encroached. Divers recently found dozens of blocks from the lighthouse lying in a line offshore, with parts of the monumental statues at its base.

August 1, 1798. "It was my first dive on an archeological site," Goddio says. "I was fascinated. I knew that tracking down the past was what I wanted to do. I decided to devote all my time to this passion."

The following year, he became the founder-president of the European Institute of Underwater Archeology. A Frenchman, he based it in Paris. Early work concentrated on the Philippines, where Goddio has found a clutch of sunken ships. They include the Spanish galleon San Diego, sunk in 1600, the East India Company trading vessel, Griffin, which foundered in 1761, and several ocean-going Chinese junks. "But I always kept my interest in Abukir," he says. "I read everything I could on the lost cities."

Goddio began work in 1996 by pinpointing the exact location of the old royal quarter of Alexandria. The conditions here, within the modern port of Alexandria, are well protected and relatively easy to work in. The peninsula where Mark Antony's palace stood, the royal harbour, and the island of Antirhodos, which housed one of Cleopatra's palaces, have been identified. Among the treasures already found are a very rare head of the great priest of Isis, a head believed to be of Caesar Augustus, and two sphinxes, one of them probably representing Ptolemy XII, Cleopatra's father.

"The offshore sites are covered with silt and sand to a depth of 5ft and more," says Goddio. "Visibility is very restricted for divers, especially when northerlies are blowing. We have to use the most sophisticated electronics and technology to the full. Even so, we need four support vessels and a team of 37 people."

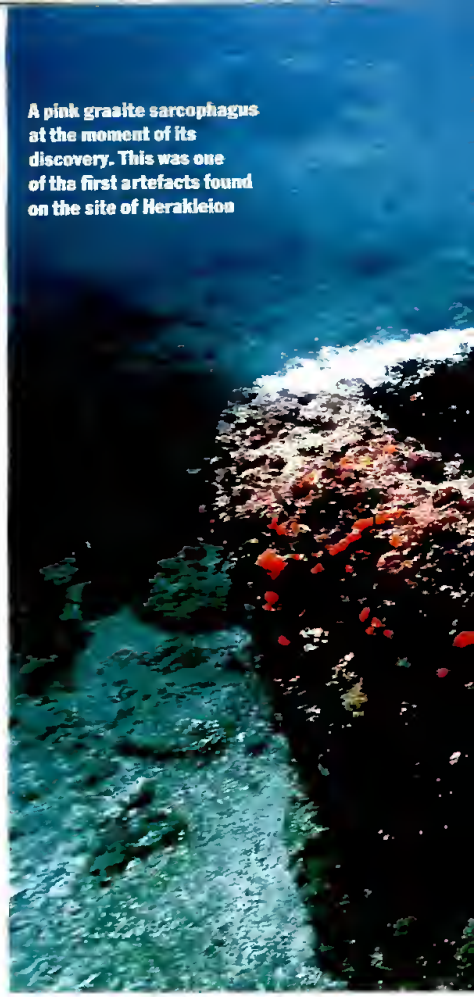
The surveying process depends on the sensitivity of the sensors and the expertise of those interpreting the data. Nuclear magnetic resonance instruments are used to produce accurate surveys of the sea bed. Towed behind the research ship, they measure the absolute value of the Earth's magnetic field a thousand times a second. "Localised magnetic anomalies show even weakly magnetic objects buried deep under sediments," says Goddio. "They are extremely sensitive and powerful. We would not have had the success we have without them." The anomalies are examined to see if they match the size or shape of archeological remains.

JEWELLERY, GOLD AND COINS HAVE BEEN RECOVERED

The ship also tows sidescan sonar, with an acoustic-positioning system transmitting the position of the towed sensors. It gives an image of acoustic contrasts on the sea bed in a 50-metre band on each side of the ship. Rocks and other objects are highlighted. Echo sounders provide a relief map of the area. A differential global positioning system constantly updates the ship's position.

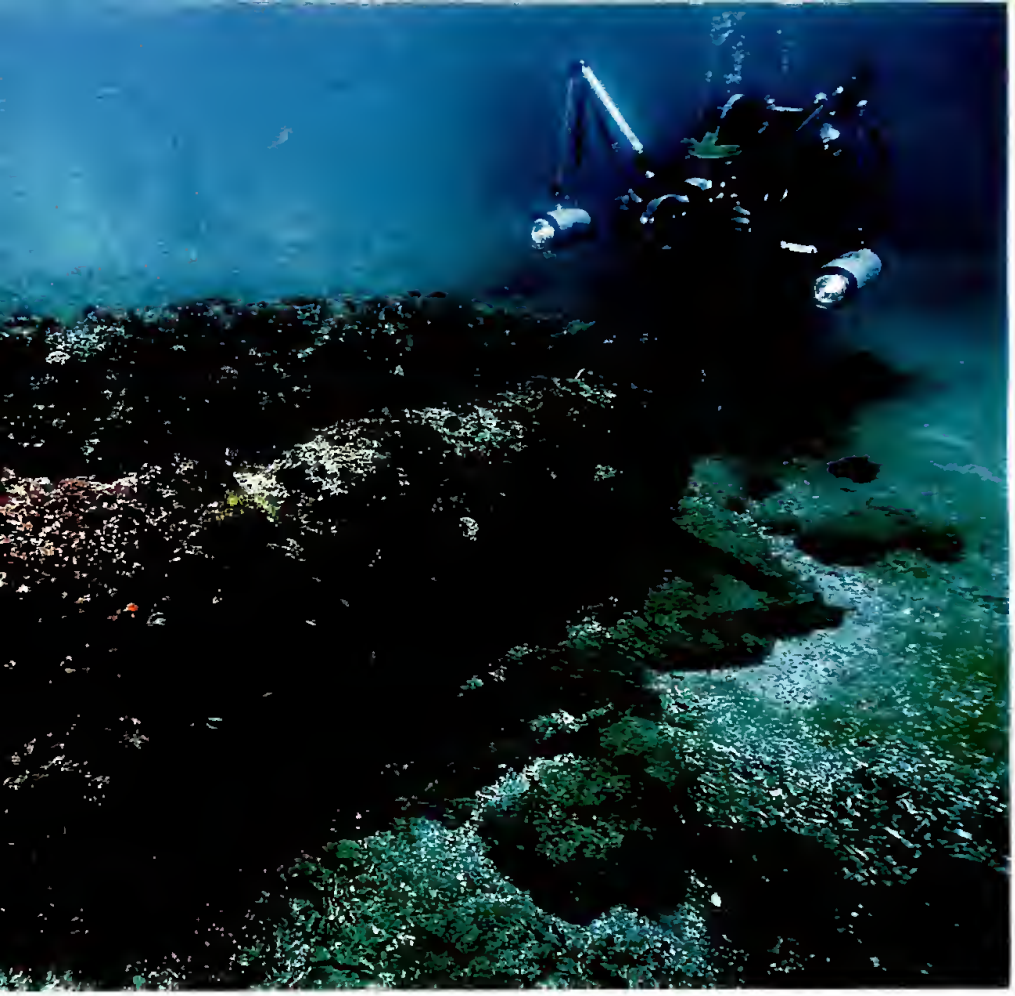
Survey data undergoes real-time computer-aided analysis and creates bathymetric and magnetic maps of the area, together with sonar mosaics of the sea bed. Goddio's experts look for what may be archeologically significant "discontinuities" or anomalies. "If something is promising," says Goddio, "a diver goes down to look."

The position and extent of the three lost cities have been verified. Goddio expects that further surveys will establish the exact reason why, and when, they were abandoned. "Alexandria suffered an earthquake and tidal waves in 365," he says. "That may have affected the royal quarter. We know that there was a major earthquake in Aqaba in 746. The final destruction of Herakleion, Canopus and Menouthis may be linked to



A pink granite sarcophagus at the moment of its discovery. This was one of the first artefacts found on the site of Herakleion





it." Significantly, no artefacts of later than about 750 have been found by Goddio's teams.

The most important finds thus far have been further fragments of the Naos of the Decades. Almost all the shrine is now complete for scholars to decipher. Statues have also been recovered, and many smaller artefacts, including jewellery, gold coins, early Islamic coins and animal remains, which can be carbon dated.

"The royal quarter of Alexandria is very well protected by modern port installations," says Goddio. "It is thinkable, and feasible, to develop an underwater museum. The storms further out to sea make that impossible for the other sites. The artefacts must be brought to land. An immense amount of work remains to be done. I thought of asking for a 100-year permit, and that was only half in jest."

A decree of 238BC hints at what may be to come. Priests assembled at Canopus in honour of Ptolemy II, and Evergetes, Ptolemy III, drew it up. It states that the sanctuary of Canopus "is among those most revered by the King and the inhabitants of the country", and adds, tantalisingly, that each year the "sacred barque of Osiris" sails to Canopus from Herakleion while priests celebrate sacrifices on altars "on either side of the ship's course". That suggests that the banks of the submerged branch of the Nile are rich in still-undiscovered altars and temples.

The Franck Goddio Society, to which the public are encouraged to subscribe, somewhat immodestly describes its patron as "probably the most successful marine archeologist in the world". Heinrich Schliemann, discoverer of Troy and Mycenae in the 1870s, and Howard Carter, who found Tutankhamen's tomb in the Valley of the Kings in 1922, had little more than picks and shovels and determination to find riches of incomparable grandeur. Nonetheless, they, and doubtless Indiana Jones, would be awed by the scientific expertise Goddio is using to prise secrets from the sea floor ■



THE SUNDAY TIMES
WINE Club

As a special welcome to new members joining The Sunday Times Wine Club (membership £10 p.a.)* you can save up to £100 on your choice of these six superb wines (minimum order 12, maximum 24 bottles) or choose a mixed case and try them all! You will also receive 3 FREE bottles of superb claret with your order.

Plus, order today and by next weekend† your wines will be delivered FREE complete with helpful tasting notes, membership card and The Wine Club's handbook.

To order, just visit our website at www.sundaytimeswineclub.co.uk/wp65

or phone us on
0870 220 0100 quoting wp65
or send us the attached coupon.

What Membership offers you

- Access to a full range of exciting and exclusive wines specially selected for their exceptional character and value for money.
- Invitations to The Wine Club's highly enjoyable wine tastings, worldwide tours and the country's largest private wine fair.
- A free subscription to Wine Times – The Club's exclusive wine magazine.
- A total money-back guarantee of wine enjoyment.
- No commitment to any further purchase.



Wines Online

You can now find all the highlights of The Sunday Times Wine Club's range on the web. There are exclusive web-only 'Wines of the Week', bin-end bargains and Top 10 recommendations and, of course, the site is built to the highest standard of security.

YOURS FREE ...

3 bottles of vintage claret when you take your pick ... and save up to £100



1

Warburn Estate Chardonnay 1998
New South Wales, Australia

Irresistible oak-aged Chardonnay – winner of a string of prestigious gold medals. Ripe guava and mango aromas with toasty vanilla oak. Rich, buttery, peach and lime flavours with a touch of acidity for perfect balance and freshness.

6 Bottles only £23.99
SAVE £18.91 ~~£42.90~~
12 Bottles only £44.99
SAVE £39.00 ~~£83.99~~

2

Domaine Tremblay-Bouchard 1998
Chablis AOC

Classic textbook Chablis from a wonderful vintage-elegant, minerally Chardonnay with rich citrus notes. Pascal Bouchard's towering reputation as a great Chablis winemaker is further enhanced by this magnificent wine.

6 Bottles only £35.49
SAVE £23.25 ~~£58.74~~
12 Bottles only £67.99
SAVE £46.96 ~~£114.95~~

3

Domaine de Bellevue Touraine Sauvignon Blanc 1999
Touraine AOC

Vivacious dry white with pronounced gooseberry aromas and crisp, appley flavours. Classic Sancerre-style Sauvignon Blanc from the most beautiful stretch of the Loire.

6 Bottles only £19.99
SAVE £13.55 ~~£33.54~~
12 Bottles only £38.99
SAVE £29.00 ~~£67.99~~

4

Benchmark Syrah 1998
Vin de Pays d'Oc

"Vintage of the century quality – but not a lot of it" so Joanna Simon wrote of the 1998 vintage in southern France. With this wine it is easy to see why-a wonderful rich and spicy Shiraz, with mouthwatering aromas and ripe brambly fruit.

6 Bottles only £18.99
SAVE £14.15 ~~£33.14~~
12 Bottles only £36.99
SAVE £30.00 ~~£66.99~~

TO ORDER, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
sundaytimeswineclub.co.uk/wp65



3 FREE BOTTLES

Château Sauman 1998
Côtes de Bourg AOC

Across the Gironde estuary from the world famous Châteaux of Margaux, are the undulating vineyards of Bourg. Here, Château Sauman produces beautifully structured wine with complex flavours of cassis and liquorice. In this 'right bank' area of Bordeaux, 1998 will be remembered as one of the century's most outstanding vintages and for Sauman itself, the finest for a generation.

"If you don't like it, we will refund you – it's as simple as that."



7 The Mixed Case (2 bottles of 6 wines featured)

Only £44.99 Save over £44 Normal Selling Price £88.40



5

Château Saint-Seurin 1997
Haut Médoc AOC

Layer upon layer of smooth dark fruit from the excellent Château Saint-Seurin estate. With gentle tannins rounding out a classically elegant mouthful of blackcurrant and plums, this superb Cru Bourgeois is the perfect partner for rare beef.

6 Bottles only £35.40
SAVE £24.45 ~~£59.85~~
12 Bottles only £67.99
SAVE £50.96 ~~£118.95~~



6

Hancock's Vineyard Shiraz Cabernet 1999
South East Australia

The Rhône's noble Syrah is Australia's sumptuous Shiraz. Together with Cabernet Sauvignon it makes a unique Australian red wine style. At once ripe and succulent, spicy and smooth, Hancock's is a hugely satisfying Aussie gem.

6 Bottles only £23.99
SAVE £14.95 ~~£38.94~~
12 Bottles only £44.99
SAVE £32.00 ~~£76.98~~

LIMITED STOCKS – ORDER TODAY AND SAVE UP TO £100

	Your selection (min 12, max 24 bottles)	Bottles	Price	Please tick	Sub Total	Save
1	Warburn Estate Chardonnay 1998 **New South Wales, Australia**	6	23.99			£18.91
		12	44.99			£39.00
2	Domaine Tremblay-Bouchard 1998 **Chablis AOC**	6	35.49			£23.25
		12	67.99			£46.96
3	Domaine de Bellevue Touraine Sauvignon Blanc 1999 **Touraine AOC**	6	19.99			£13.55
		12	36.99			£29.00
4	Benchmark Syrah 1998 **Vin de Pays d'Oc**	6	19.99			£14.15
		12	36.99			£30.00
5	Château Saint-Seurin 1997 **Haut Médoc AOC Saint Seurin**	6	35.49			£24.45
		12	67.99			£50.96
6	Hancock's Vineyard Shiraz Cabernet 1999 **South East Australia**	6	23.99			£14.95
		12	44.99			£32.00
7	The Mixed Case	12	44.99			£44.41
	3 Free clarets worth £21.45	3	FREE	✓		
				Membership	£10.00	
				Delivery	FREE	
				Total		



Please complete this Order Form and return it with your payment to: **The Sunday Times Wine Club, FREEPOST RCE8178, Reading, RG7 4ZJ** (no stamp required) or telephone **0870 220 0100** (quoting Ref: WP65) or fax 0870 220 0030 or visit our website: **www.sundaytimeswineclub.co.uk/wp65**
I understand that there is no commitment to any further purchase and I may cancel my Membership at any time.

*Offer open to new members only. All customers will be charged a £10 membership subscription. Offer open while stocks last. Only 3 bottles of claret per household. Maximum purchase 2 cases. Calls charged at national rate.

Readers ordering from the Republic of Ireland phone 01 885 7841 – telephone orders only. Prices are all quoted in £ sterling. Please quote code WR71 and add £10 per 15 bottle case or part thereof to go towards extra delivery. VAT and duty charges. Please allow 21 days for delivery.

† Priority delivery: Your order should arrive within a week. For the Scottish Islands, Highlands and Northern Ireland please allow a few extra days. UK addresses only, excluding Channel Islands.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other _____ Initials ____ Surname _____

Address _____

Day Tel: _____ Evening Tel No: _____ E-mail: _____

Where safe to leave if out (e.g. by back door) _____

I enclose a cheque for the amount indicated made payable to 'The Sunday Times Wine Club' or please charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/CONNECT/AMEX/DINERS CLUB/SWITCH number:

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Switch Issue Number ☐☐ Expiry Date ☐☐☐☐

Signature _____ Date _____
(I am over 18 years of age)

FREE DELIVERY

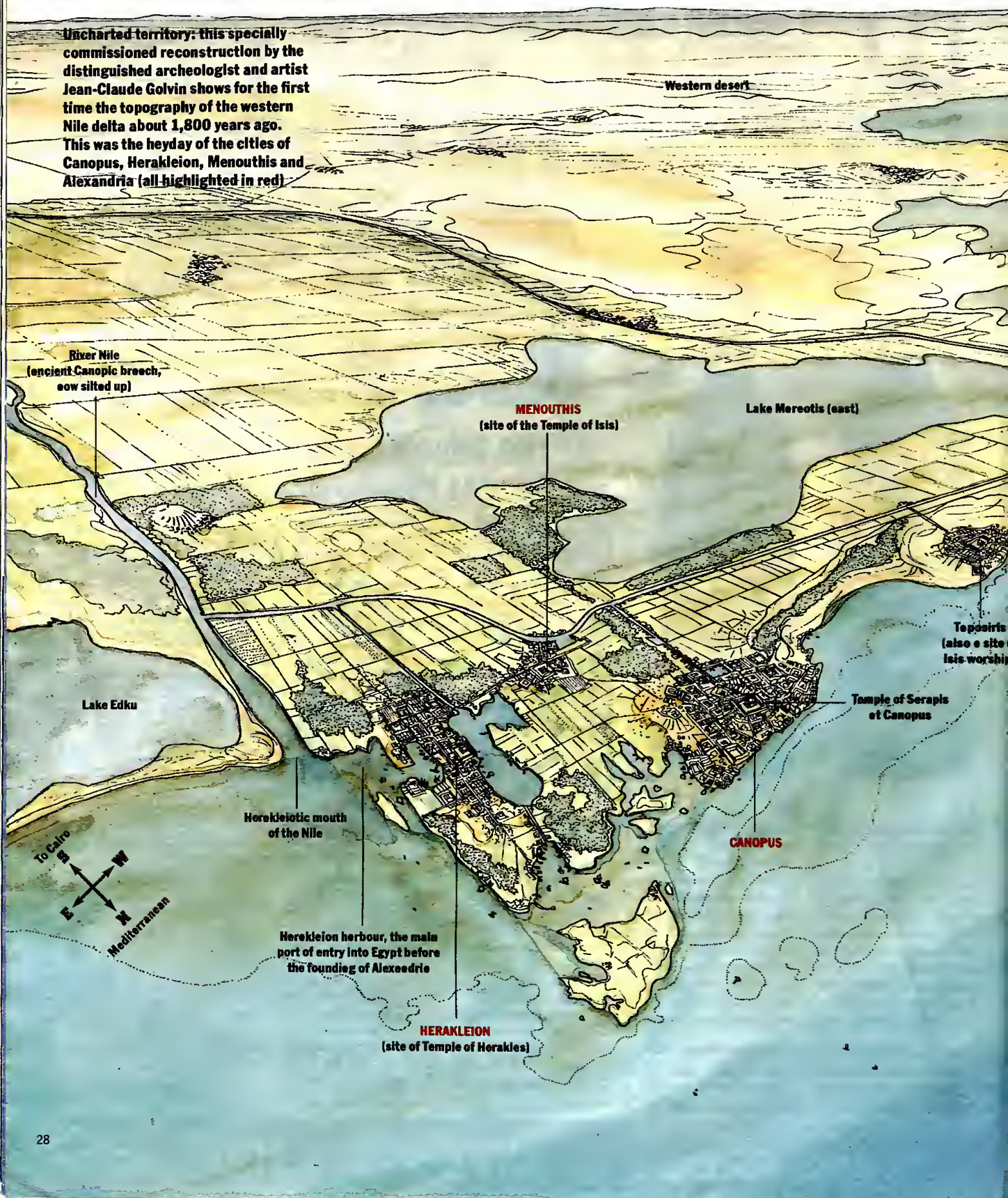
ORDER NOW • BY NEXT WEEKEND • RECEIVE YOUR WINES BY NEXT WEEKEND

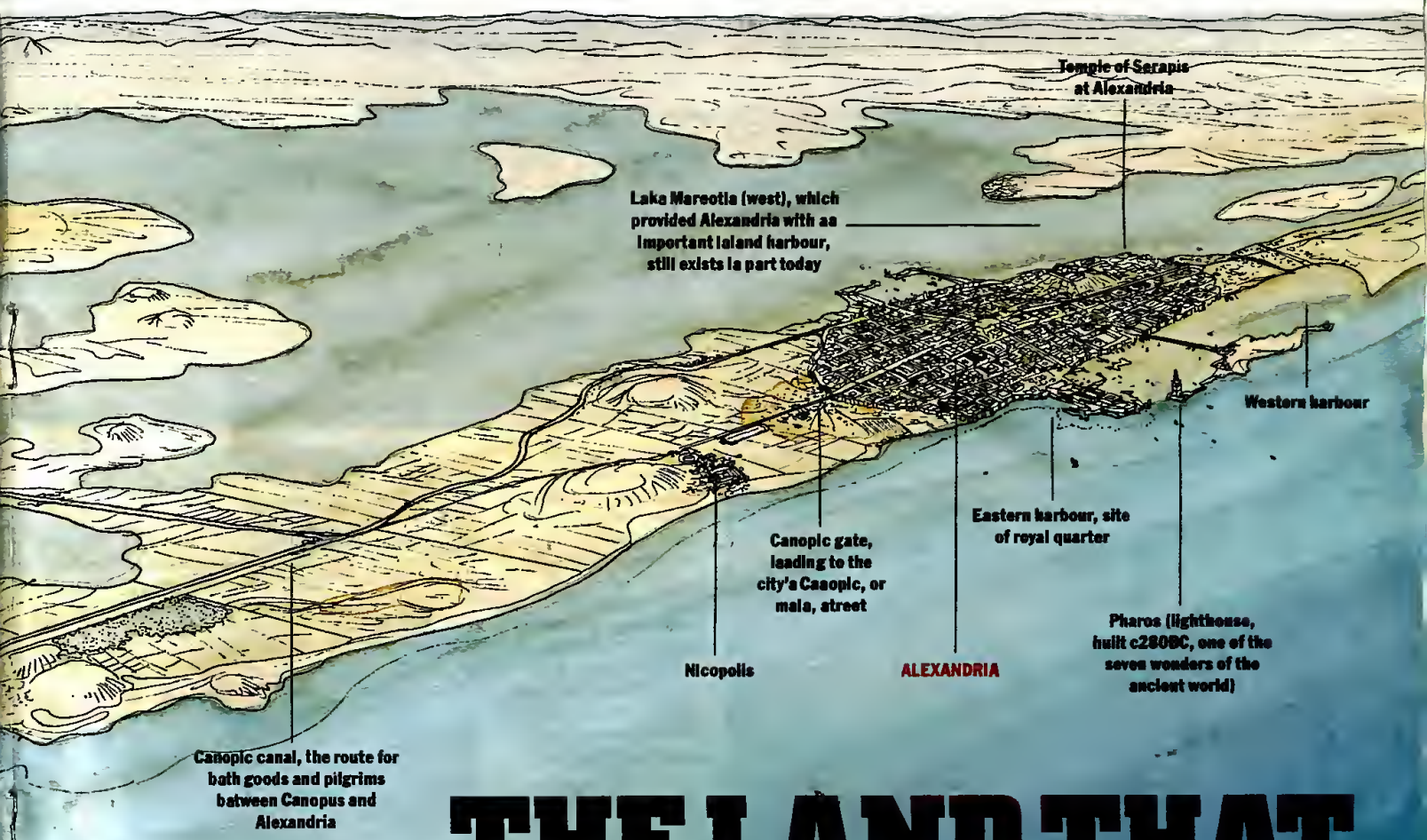
Ref: WP65

☎ **0870 220 0100**

LINES OPEN
Weekdays 9am–9pm
Weekends 9am–6pm

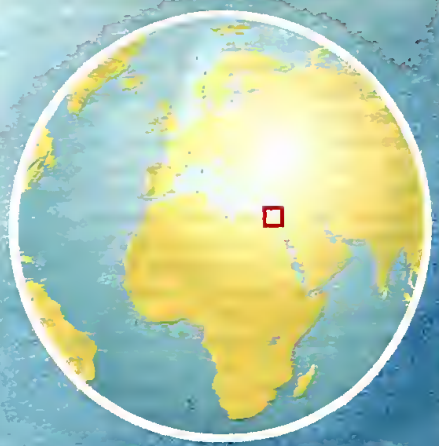
The Sunday Times Wine Club,
New Aquitaine House, Exeter Way, Theale, Reading, RG7 4PL


Uncharted territory: this specially commissioned reconstruction by the distinguished archeologist and artist Jean-Claude Golvin shows for the first time the topography of the western Nile delta about 1,800 years ago. This was the heyday of the cities of Canopus, Herakleion, Menouthis and Alexandria (all highlighted in red)
Western desert
River Nile (ancient Canopic breech, now silted up)
MENOUTHIS (site of the Temple of Isis)
Lake Mareotis (east)
Taposiris (also a site Isis worshi
Lake Edku
Temple of Serapis et Canopus
Herakleiotic mouth of the Nile
CANOPUS
To Cairo
S
W
E
N
Mediterranean
Herakleion harbour, the main port of entry into Egypt before the foundieg of Alexeedrie
HERAKLEION (site of Temple of Herakles)



THE LAND THAT TIME DROWNED

Alexander came here to conquer, but for 1,000 years Greeks, Romans and Christians visited the coast for its sea air, miracle cures and festivals. Then disaster struck. By Penelope Evans



Site of the sunken cities off the Nile delta



A simplified map based on Franck Goddio's surveys of the area, showing the location of the three main cities



Now Menouthis, Heraklelon and much of Canopus are under water and the shape of the coastline has changed







The headless granite statue (left and opposite page, right) is lifted off the sea bed (above) and out of the water (right and opposite page, top left). Recognisable as the fertility goddess Isis, from the Isis knot of 'fabric' at its breast, the statue was carved in the 1st or 2nd century BC, and may have stood in the Temple of Isis in Menouthis (see map on previous pages)

From the days of the pharaohs, Egypt preferred to keep its neighbours from across the Mediterranean out. But when the outside world was allowed to enter, it came by way of Canopus and its harbour of Herakleion. Menouthis was a new town by comparison, only coming into existence in the 2nd century AD, a suburban add-on to both.

The towns stood on the one easily navigable branch of the Nile. When the Greek historian Herodotus visited the country in the 5th century BC, this is where he started his journey. He describes Herakleion as famous for its Temple of Herakles (Hercules, who became a god). Legend has it that Helen and Paris took refuge here when they were shipwrecked on their way to Troy. It was then an Egyptian temple reputed as a sanctuary. Runaway slaves were allowed to escape their masters if they stayed and served the god.

In pharaonic times, Herakleion may also have acted as a customs port for ships bearing non-Egyptian goods. Foreign vessels reported here before sailing further up the Nile to Naucratis, the only market open to Greek traders. Later it was to lose its significance as a port to Alexandria with its splendid double harbour.

Before the arrival of Alexander in 332BC, Egyptians had tended to neglect the salty plains where the Nile met the sea. Canopus stood virtually alone. Canopic jars – animal-headed vases containing the viscera of mummies – were manufactured there. Then came the founding of Alexandria.

Canopus had a thriving market, which the Greek governor, Cleomenes, decided to transfer along with the bulk of the town's population to Alexander's infant city. The townspeople offered a large amount of money to be left in peace. Cleomenes took the money – then removed the market anyway.

Alexander didn't live to see his city built. His successors, the Ptolemies – Macedonian Greeks – found themselves colonising a land and a people vastly different from their own. One solution was to follow the example of Alexander himself. He had declared that he was the son of the god Ammon, a new deity for the Egyptian pantheon, and so part of the fabric of Egyptian life. His successors did the same. In 238BC, Ptolemy III rededicated the already famous Egyptian temple of Osiris in Canopus to a new, Hellenised god – Serapis – including himself and his entire family for worship alongside him.

Osiris was banished to the Temple of Herakles at Herakleion, which had kept its importance as a shrine. The temple became the starting point for one of the great festivals of the Canopic delta, famous throughout the ancient world. Every year, by order of the new rulers, the image of Osiris, the Egyptian god of the underworld, was brought out of the Temple of Herakles to be carried by barge to Canopus.

From now on, Canopus attracted visitors – pilgrims and tourists – from all over Egypt and beyond. The annual processions of Serapis, decreed and paid for by the royal family, were spectacular events, attracting crowds of thousands. Images of the gods that were normally kept within the sacred precincts of the temple were brought out into the streets amid displays of ⟶

MAP PRECIOUS PAGE. EDITIONS ERRANCE





WHO WAS WHO ON THE NILE

Menelaus: The legendary King of Sparta and brother of Agamemnon, king of Mycenae. The abduction of his wife, Helen, by the Trojan prince Paris led to the Trojan war. A storm blew Menelaus and Helen (right) to Canopus in the course of their journey home from Troy. After the fall of Troy, they were reconciled and lived in apparent harmony until his death.

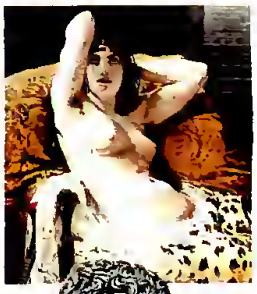


Herodotus: Known both as the Father of History and as the Father of Lies, his inquiries into the countries he visited enthralled his fellow Greeks. He went to Egypt in the 5th century BC, beginning his journey at Herakleion, and returned with tales so outlandish that many doubted the truth of them. Modern travel writers have imitated his style, mixing the factual with the fabulous.

Alexander the Great: Born in 356BC, Alexander (right) always claimed that his real father was Zeus. His actual father, Philip of Macedon, conquered all of Greece before his death in 336BC. Upon his succession, Alexander embarked on the conquest of Persia. He brought down an empire and made it his own. He led his armies as far as India, leaving a trail of towns founded in his wake, many called Alexandria. He founded Alexandria in Egypt during a brief detour there in 332BC. He died aged 33 in Babylon in 323BC. His generals divided his conquests between them.



Ptolemy III: The third in the dynasty of kings named for the general who seized Egypt upon the death of Alexander. Ptolemy III ruled from 246BC to 221BC, having married his cousin Berenike, celebrated by the poets. He successfully installed the Ptolemies as ruler gods and rededicated the temple of Osiris to Serapis, boosting the importance of the Canopic delta. He also extended Greek colonisation of Egypt, and tried to reform the Egyptian calendar to contain 365 days and a leap year.



Cleopatra VII: Last of the Ptolemies, Cleopatra (above right) was notorious for love affairs with Julius Caesar and Mark Antony, bearing children to both. After Caesar's assassination in 44BC she turned to Mark Antony. Her association with him — introducing him to the pleasures of Canopus — turned his former allies against him. She killed herself in 30BC, after their defeat at Actium by Caesar's nephew and heir, Octavian.



Mark Antony: The chief rival to Octavian as the principal power in Rome, Antony (right) tried to use Egypt's armies and wealth to make himself successor to Caesar. Having failed to defeat his rival, he killed himself when he heard (prematurely) that Cleopatra was dead.

St Cyr: A 4th-century Christian doctor martyred in Canopus. His bones — miraculously entangled with those of his follower St John, a soldier — were transferred to Menouthis, to replace Isis for worship there.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS: HILTI FOUNDATION/DISCOVERY CHANNEL/FRANCK GODOIO THIS PANEL, FROM TOP: MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY; AKG; AKG; MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY



Choose anything, take 4 years free credit and everything's free for a year

D·F·S

Britain's Leading Upholstery Specialist

THERE'S A DFS STORE NEAR YOU. BANBURY, BECKTON, BIRMINGHAM, BOLTON, BRISTOL, BURY ST EDMUNDS, CANNOCK, CARDIFF, CHELTENHAM, CHESTER, COLCHESTER, COVENTRY, CROYDON, DARLEY DALE, DARLINGTON, DROITWICH, ENFIELD, GATESHEAD, GRANTHAM, HANLEY, HOVE, KINGS LYNN, LEICESTER, MAIDSTONE, MANCHESTER, MEASHAM, MILTON KEYNES, NEW MALDEN, NORTHAMPTON, NORWICH, NOTTINGHAM, OLDHAM, PETERBOROUGH, PLYMOUTH, POOLE, PRESTON, READING, SHREWSBURY, SIDCUP, SLOUGH, SOUTHAMPTON, SOUTH RUISLIP, SUNDERLAND, SWINDON, WARRINGTON. **NORTHERN UPHOLSTERY STORES:** BRADFORD, BRIGG, CARCROFT, HULL, WETHERBY.

www.dfs.co.uk

For example: The Salsa 3 seater sofa in beige £499. Defer payments for 12 months and settle in full or choose 36 monthly payments of £13.86 (4 Years Free Credit from date of order) Licensed credit brokers. Written quotations available on request. Subject to acceptance.

APR 0%

ritual and spontaneous devotion – with the emphasis on spontaneous. It was these events that helped earn Canopus its reputation for licentiousness. Alexandrians crammed into boats and headed there in extreme party mode. The Greek geographer Strabo witnessed such an event at the end of the 1st century BC, describing it with a mixture of awe and disapproval: "The entire route is lined, night and day, with men and women playing the flute, all given over to wild and obscene dancing."

But Canopus had more than just a reputation for ritualised promiscuity. The Serapeion was famous for healing with its sleep cure. People spent the night in a temple chamber, surrounded by images of the god, hoping for a healing visit from Serapis or revelation in the course of a dream. Priests were on hand to help with interpreration. Its success was legendary, ensuring a constant stream of the faithful sick.

Yet, despite inviting comparison with Lourdes, Canopus never could throw off its reputation for decadence. It probably didn't want to. A 20th-century historian of the region has described it as the Versailles of the Alexandrian court, a fashionable resort by the sea, full of pretty ladies. The Roman travel writer Ammianus Marcellinus visited in the 4th century AD, when the cult of Serapis had already begun to wane. Even then, he found everything to admire. "The town has many good hotels; the breezes are gentle and cool, the temperature mild. Stay here and you will feel out of this world, listening to the gentle murmur of the winds over this sun-kissed land."

In 31BC, Cleopatra's rebellion failed, and Greek rule gave way to Roman. Yet life in Canopus carried on much as before. Now it was the Roman prefects who came to enjoy the sea breezes. In the years to come, the Roman emperors, having seen its effect on Mark Antony, worried that Canopus was simply too pleasant for Roman virtue to withstand, and forbade its upper classes to come near.

The festivals no longer had royal support, but public donations ensured the survival of spectacle at Canopus – perhaps because the town now had a rival. Two miles away, in Menouthis, another temple was growing famous for its oracles and its cures. There is no mention of the Temple of Isis before the 2nd century AD, but its reputation would become huge. Egyptians tended to restrict their worship to their local shrines, but, as with the Serapeion in Canopus, pilgrims came from far and wide to consult the Isis of Menouthis, famous for truth and healing.

Touchingly, for many there was a further motive in coming to Menouthis. The Isis worshipped here had an unparalleled reputation for curing infertility, and was the object of ultimate appeal when all else failed. But here again, reports of the accompanying rites scandalised many. In the 4th century, Christian commentators began to have their say: "If I were to describe the orgies of Menouthis... the festivals where women abandon their modesty, how would I express the inexpressible, the sheer numbers of young girls who take part?" Others took a different view of the temple rites, describing a goddess who moved in a mysterious and gentle way. "Isis finds her greatest delight in the healing of mankind. Standing above the sick in their sleep, she works remarkable cures."

But the days of wonders were on the wane. By the late 4th century AD, Christianity had become the new religion of the Roman Empire, and in the streets of Alexandria it would soon be dangerous even to preach the old one. In 415, a woman philosopher, Hypatia, was stripped and murdered by a Christian mob for doing just that. In Canopus, in 389, the Serapeion was destroyed. Soldiers carried away every stone of the vast complex, leaving only the foundations. A Christian monastery was immediately founded in its place. We have some description of the Canopus that was left behind, with its newly constructed holy buildings, splendid church and public baths. In other words, after centuries of censure, licentious Canopus had finally become respecrable.

Not so Menouthis. Here, on the outskirts of Herakleion, the cult of Isis continued to flourish, even if in secret. Christians complained of "a terrible Egyptian demon called Menouthis, who appeared as a woman". In 495, matters were taken in hand. Monks raided a house and, despite the priestess and her assistants having hurriedly built a concealing wall, they discovered a secret chamber containing a working shrine, complete with images of gods and with fresh blood. Twenty camel loads of idols were taken away for burning. Not all could have belonged to the local cult. Hard-pressed by the Church, Menouthis had become the last refuge for pagan temples over 100 miles away in Memphis.

The last remains of Isis were stamped out. A church was erected, which, unremarkably perhaps, also became famous for treating the sick. Healing took place by way of the sleep cure, excepr that now it was saints who appeared to the sleeper instead of gods. For the next 150 years, Menouthis was again a centre of faith, its popularity strengthened by its location, close to the main pilgrims' road from Egypr to Jerusalem.

But, as with the pagan cults it had sramped out, the Church's days were numbered. In 640 the Arabs overran Egypt. The Christian shrines dwindled, and Canopus, Herakleion and Menouthis cease ro be mentioned. In the 9th century, the Canopic branch of the Nile silted up and much of the seaboard fell beneath the waves. All thar was left was the name of Abukir Bay – Abu Kyr, Father Cyr – one of the saints whose relics could cure almost as well as Isis ■

TIME LINE: THE GLORY THAT WAS EGYPT

c1738BC



c1738 - 1102BC — New Kingdom of Egypt; the golden age of the pharaohs such as Nefertiti, Tutankhamen (left) and Rameses, who ruled a united Upper and Lower Egypt

c1102 - 525BC — Late Period. The pharaohs are rulers in name only as the country breaks down into smaller principalities



525 - 332BC — Persia occupies Egypt. The great Persian leader Darius begins the renewal of Egyptian prosperity (left)

480 - 404BC — Golden age of Athens, after the Athenians defeated the Persians; literature and philosophy are at their height



c450BC — Herodotus, the Greek historian, begins his tour of Egypt at Herakleion and devotes an entire book to the country



336BC — Alexander the Great begins his invasion of Persia



332BC - 331BC — Alexander the Great takes Egypt from Persia and founds city of Alexandria



323BC — Death of Alexander (left). He was succeeded in Egypt by his general Ptolemy, who founded a dynasty there

238BC — Decree of Canopus ordering worship of the Ptolemies as gods

168BC — Beginning of Roman influence in Egypt



55BC — Julius Caesar invades Britain

51BC — Cleopatra, the last of the Ptolemies, becomes Queen of Egypt (left)



44BC — Caesar assassinated in Rome. Mark Antony and Julius Caesar's heir, Octavian, vie for the succession



31BC — Battle of Actium. Death of Antony and Cleopatra. Romans occupy Egypt



AD311 — Roman Emperor Constantine converts to Chnstianity



AD389 — Temple of Serapis destroyed in Canopus

AD495 — Destruction of idols (left).Christians eradicate cult of Isis in Menouthis



AD495 - 640 — Church of St Cyr and St John in Menouthis becomes centre of pilgrimage under the auspices of Cyril the Patriarch (left)

ADc616 — Persians occupy Alexandria

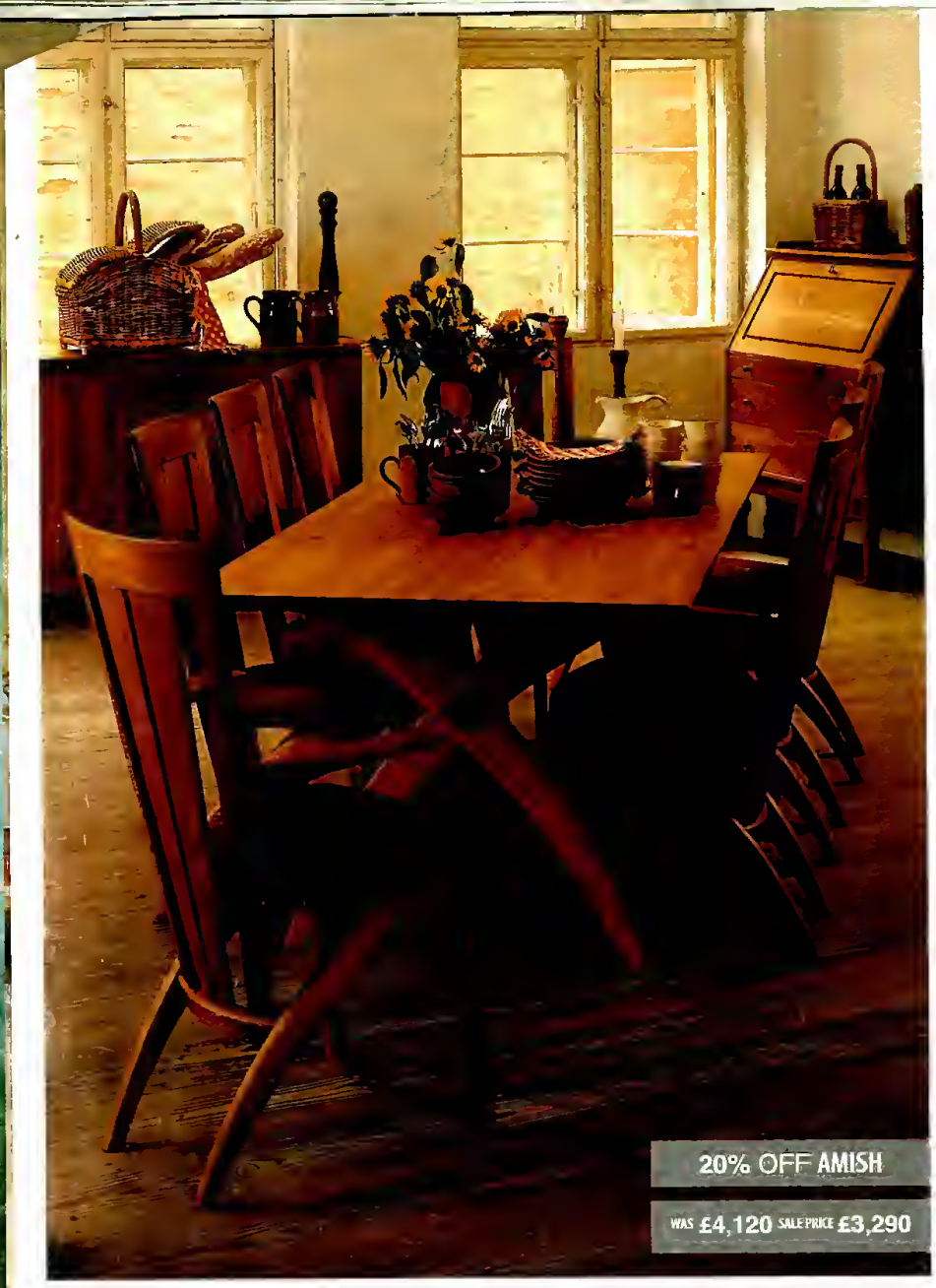
AD642 — Arabs take over Egypt. Chnstianity dwindles under Islam

AD746 — Date of earthquake which may have destroyed Canopus, Menouthis and Herakleion

● AD746

'THE ENTIRE ROUTE IS LINED, NIGHT AND DAY, WITH MEN AND WOMEN GIVEN OVER TO OBSCENE DANCING'

MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY, EXCEPT, LEFT, SECOND FROM TOP, THE ART ARCHIVE, THIRD FROM TOP, THE ART ARCHIVE AND ARCHITECTURE COLLECTION, SECOND FROM BOTTOM RIGHT, SCALA, BOTTOM RIGHT, SONIA HALLIDAY PHOTOGRAPHS



Sale

For over 40 years Wharfside has sold the finest solid wood furniture made by craftsmen i Scandanavia and Italy.

Our Danish furniture collection is the largest i the U.K.

Our showrooms each display over 20 different dining suites featuring classic and contemporar designs in a variety of quality hardwoods incluoing Teak, Oak, Cherry, Rosewood and Mapl

And now our experience, high standards and sty are available at some very special prices for a very limited time.

15% OFF VOUCHER

Wharfside

Bring this voucher to our store in or and it will entitle you to a on any furniture that has NOT been reduced in the sale. It does not apply to furniture that has already been reduced.

INTEREST FREE CREDIT AVAILABL

20% OFF FREDERICIA



WAS £3,720 SALE PRICE £2,890

30% OFF SARA SUITE



WAS £3,680 SALE PRICE £2,540

15% OFF VIBORG UNITS



FLEXIBLE UNITS IN TEAK, OAK OR BEECH

25% OFF CARLA



WAS £1,368 SALE PRICE £998

25% OFF CONSTANCE



WAS £3,508 SALE PRICE £2,59

Wharfside can also be found at:

SHOREDITCH: 66 Buttesland Street, London, N1 6BY. Telephone:020 7253 3206

LEATHERHEAD: 11 North Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 7AX Telephone: 01372 379810

Open 7 days a week Mon – Fri 9pm - 5pm, Sat 9.30am – 4.30pm, Sun 10am – 2pm. All goods subject to availability.

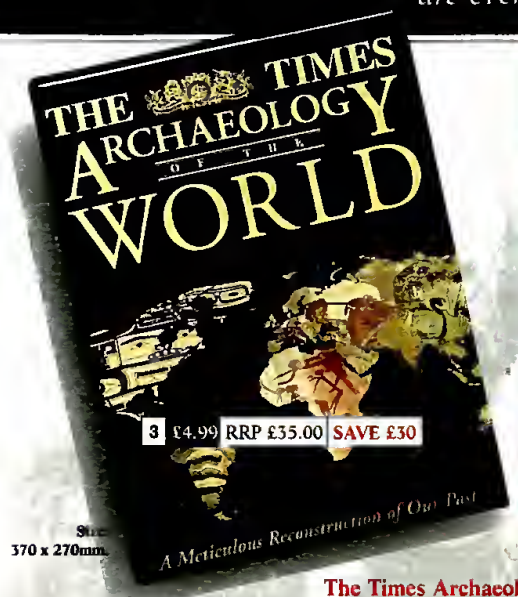
We reserve the right to change our ranges and prices without notice. *Written details available on request. **Available to most adults. Subject to status.

www.wharfside.co.uk

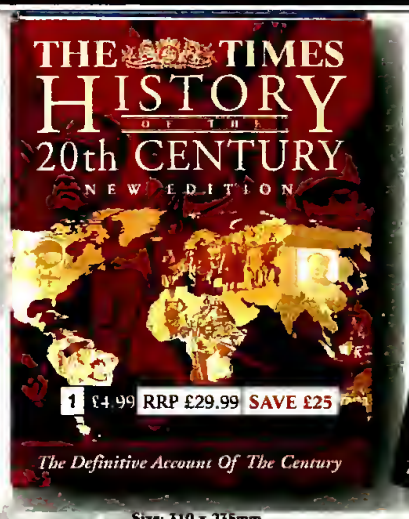
Wharfside

EXPLORE HISTORY WITH THE TIMES

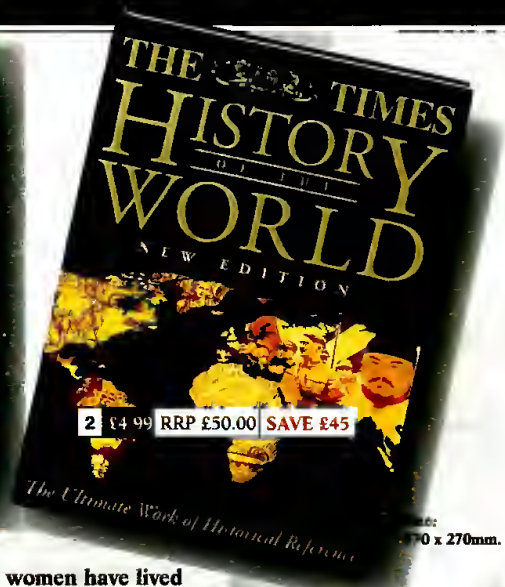
Accessible, fully illustrated and packed with authoritative information, these large-format reference books are everything you'd expect from The Times.



Size: 370 x 270mm.



Size: 310 x 235mm.



Size: 370 x 270mm.

The Times Archaeology of the World looks at how men and women have lived in the 2,500,000 years of human existence, The Times History of the 20th Century covers everything from the Battle of Britain to Neil Armstrong's moon landing while The Times History of the World reveals the whole sweep of human history.

1, 2 or 3 for £4.99 each (+p&p)

6,000 years of history in 23ft

Following the entire history of mankind, *The Timechart History of the World* gives the reader an at-a-glance picture of concurrent events around the world. On its reverse, charts, and family trees of nations' dynasties, provide a vast store of additional information.

FREE Timechart



We're offering you the chance to buy any of these outstanding full-colour reference books for just £4.99 each (plus £3.99 p&p). The Timechart History of the World from the Times, is yours, FREE, whichever you choose.

As a member of World Books you'll receive a FREE magazine about once a month, in which expert editors review the best books around – from John Grisham to J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter, from Jamie Oliver's cookbooks to the new David Beckham biography, plus the latest reference from DK and the BBC. You'll be offered more than 3,000 titles every year, and guaranteed savings of up to 50% on the recommended retail prices of all of them.

- All we ask is that you buy four more books in your first year of membership – how many books you buy after that is entirely up to you. You'll get ten days' approval on every one.
- The Editor's Choice is an outstanding title selected by our editors in each magazine. If you don't want it, just say so on the order form provided.
- If you'd like to apply for membership, simply fill in the coupon and return it to us. Membership is limited to one per household.
- Please send no money now and, if you change your mind, return your books within ten days of receiving them. We'll cancel your membership and you'll owe us nothing.

See us online at: www.see.worldbooks.co.uk

World Books, BCA, Swindon, SN99 9XX.

worldbooks®

... where EVERY book is discounted

To: World Books, FREEPOST, Swindon, SN99 1BB

YES, I'd love to join **World Books**

The books I have selected for my introductory offer are:

Enter book nos. in boxes | | | | 4 FREE TIMECHART

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

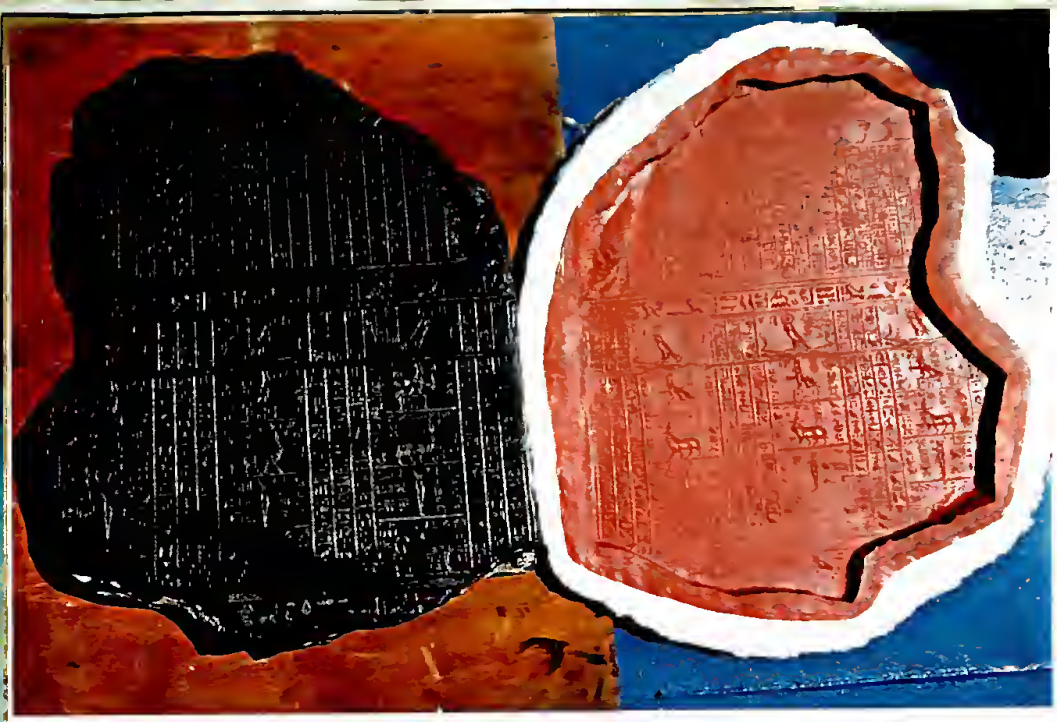
Postcode Tel. no

I am over 18 years of age. Offer available in the UK only. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Membership is subject to acceptance and we may consult a licensed credit reference agency. If you do not wish to be contacted by BCA by phone, fax or e-mail please tick box ☐ by other parties offering you their services or products please tick box ☐

PLEASE SEND NO MONEY NOW

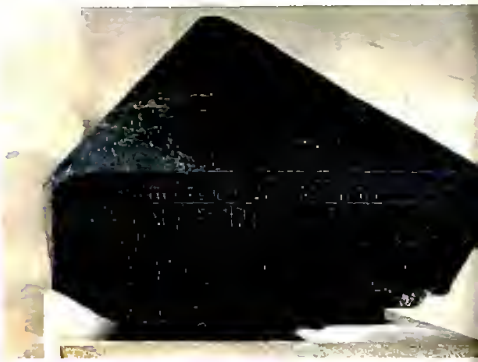
NO STAMP REQUIRED

STM11





Top left: moulds heve been taken of new pieces of the Naos of the Decades to help interpret the hieroglyphics. Above: a large piece, in Alexandria's Greco-Roman Museum since 1952. Right: e new section depicting the god Shu. Below: the top of the naos, in the Louvre since 1815. Bottom: this head, believed to be of Nectenebo I, who dedicated the naos, has also been discovered





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: HILTI FOUNDATION/DISCOVERY CHANNEL/FRANCK GODDIO, COURTESY GRECO ROMAN MUSEUM, ALEXANDRIA, HILTI FOUNDATION/DISCOVERY CHANNEL/FRANCK GODDIO, MUSEE DU LOUVRE/RMN

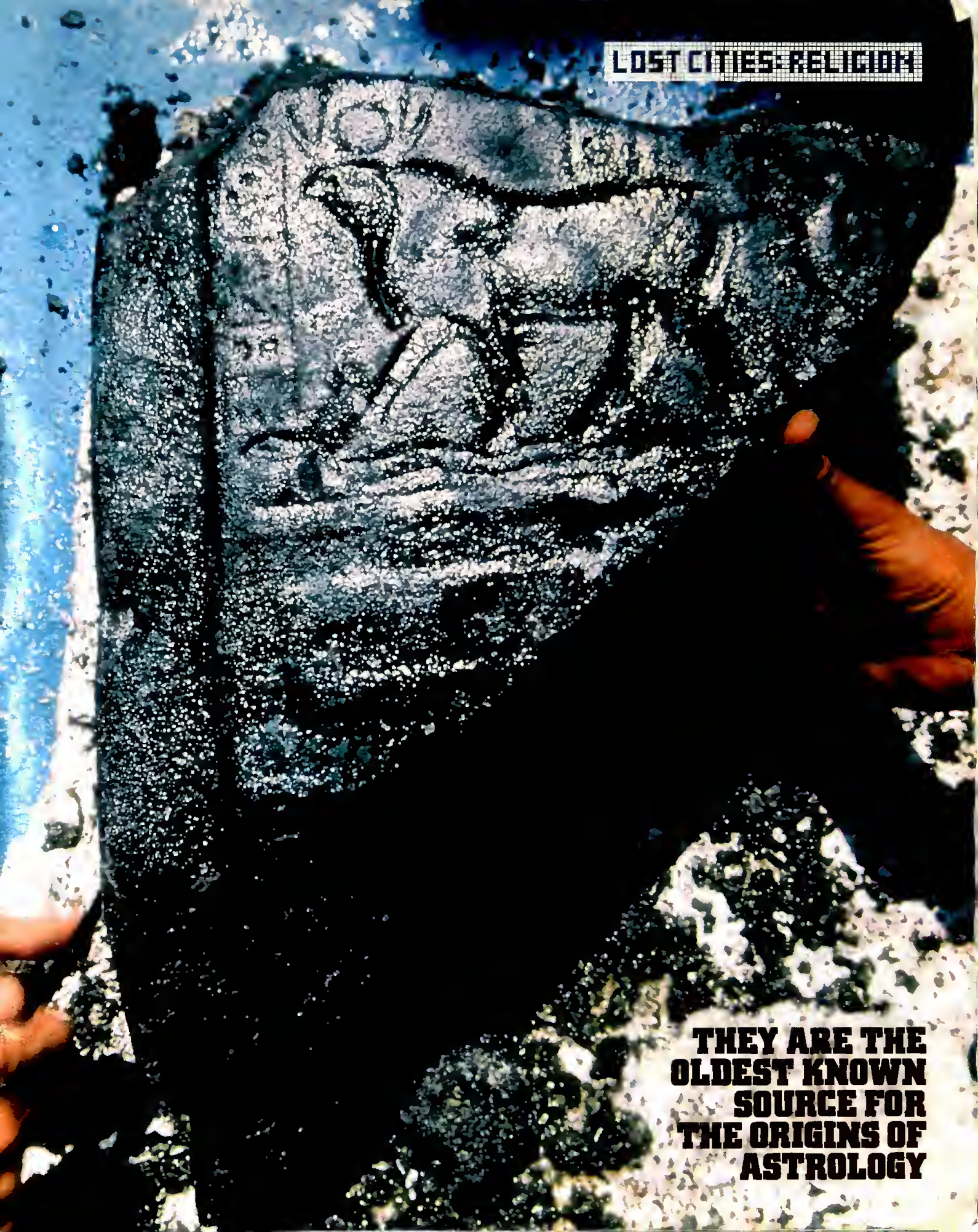
SHRINE OF THE TIMES

The carvings on chunks of stone found among the ruins of the sunken cities are the key to an age-old puzzle: how the calendar of the ancients worked. By Joseph Dunn

The discovery, under 5ft of silt and sand in the Mediterranean Sea, of large fragments of the Naos of the Decades, marks the latest development in a problem that has intrigued scholars since pre-Roman times. Set alongside otber, larger, pieces of the same naos – preserved in the Louvre, Paris and in Alexandria's Greco-Roman Museum – they complete an ancient jigsaw puzzle: Egyptologists now have the only virtually complete naos in existence with which to study ancient beliefs. The inscriptions on big slabs of granite, dated to the 5th century BC, are the oldest known source for the origins of classical astrology, which still has echoes in today's calendar. They also cast new light on a turbulent period that saw the Egyptian, Assyrian, Roman and Greek cultures converge, and Christianity emerge as the region's dominant religion.

In the 4th century BC, Pharaoh Nectanebo I (380-362BC) dedicated a sanctuary, called a naos by scholars, at Saft, a town to the east of the Nile delta. Hewn from a single block, it was a standing shrine with a pyramid-shaped top and a hollow space inside intended for a statue of a god or goddess. The inscriptions on the naos represent the 37 decades – three 10-day periods for each month, plus another to cover the extra five days when one year changed into the next – that made up a full year. Each 10-day cycle was determined by the movements of particular stars, known as decans. By observing them, the night hours could be counted, and celestial clues picked up as to the gods' intentions.

Between the 9th and 4th centuries BC, it was common for priests in Egypt to invent legends that backed up their region's claims to have influenced the universe. The legends harked back to its creation, when gods ruled Earth, and told of events that occurred in the region that would have profound consequences for future generations. The legend devised by the people of Saft, and which relates to the 37 panels on the Naos of the Decades, deals with the genesis of tbe universe. While passing through Saft, it says, the creator Ra, the sun, declared that Shu, the first god he made and who personified the atmosphere, would be the fates' master. Saft's theologians decorated the naos with images of this primordial god and illustrated his activities as master of the 37 decades. As the decans waxed and waned it was Shu who determined the weather, the welfare of plants, animals and people, and the destiny of nations. ➳



THEY ARE THE OLDEST KNOWN SOURCE FOR THE ORIGINS OF ASTROLOGY



Sharps *Half Price** Summer Sale



55% off* selected bedrooms

plus **extra £200 off**** all orders and **free**** *luxury headboard* ***must end Wednesday***

Don't miss this week's special offers.

There's never been a better time to treat yourself to a beautiful fitted bedroom than right now in the Sharps Summer Sale. Call into your local Sharps showroom today and you'll find all ranges are Half Price and there's 55% off selected bedrooms. Plus there's an extra £200 off and a free luxury headboard with all orders, **but only until this Wednesday.**

Over 200 showrooms nationwide - for your nearest

Call 0800 789 789

www.sharps.co.uk

Please contact me for a free designer visit ☐
Please send me your free colour brochure ☐

Name _____

Telephone (inc STD code) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ ST20/08/00

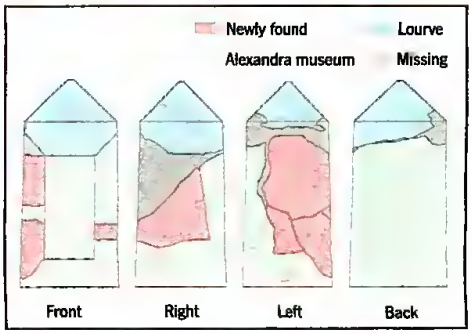
Post this coupon free (no stamp required) to:
Sharps Bedrooms, Freepost, Camberley, Surrey GU15 2BR

* Offer based on current list price. Minimum list price £1500.
**Applies to orders of £1500 or above.

SHARPS Bedrooms

THE IMAGES SEEM TO HAVE BEEN FILED DOWN TO NOT OFFEND THE NEW ORDER





Right: how the Naos of the Decades may have looked. Tha god Shu (with a lion's haad and ram's body) may have been on a plinth, behind doors decked in gold leaf, to protect him at night. Bottom right: how the newly discovered pieces fit into an original modal drawn in 1954 by the Egyptologist Professor Jean Yoyotte

Every conceivable surface bears inscriptions and images. Each decade is represented by a vertical panel with five images, each explained with short hieroglyphic captions, and vertical columns of hieroglyphic text. The images and captions remain the same for each decade; the text, explaining Shu's actions, changes on each panel.

The first picture shows a bird crowned by a disk, surrounded by a star and standing on a barque which seems to symbolise the heliac appearance of the star on the horizon. The second shows a monster, identified as an idol of Shu, with the body of a lion and the head and tail of a falcon. The third box portrays Shu as he is also shown on the inside of the naos: a ram with the head of a lion, wearing the crown of the southern kingdom. The fourth depicts a mummy with a dog's head wearing the crown of the northern kingdom – clearly "Upuaut who lives in the lower kingdom", a god also worshipped in Saft. The fifth box shows a mummy recumbent upon a bed – the usual image of a dead person being treated in the embalming room. It is thought that these other worldly images represent the stages in the course of a decan, and the changes in the function of the great god.

The naos was moved several times, and at some point was transferred to the temple in Menouthis, the holy of holies of the cult of Isis, and the setting for a violent struggle between the emerging Christians and the ancient beliefs, cults and superstitions.

Christians gradually prevailed over the region's old pagan idolatry and began reforming many monuments to reflect their religion. Parts of the Naos of tbe Decades appear to have been modified in this way – deliberately filed down so as not offend the new religious order. On the facade, the two names of the pharaoh have been entirely erased, while any ostensible reference to him being a god has been carefully removed. It is even possible that once these blasphemous references had been erased the monument was re-used by the Christians themselves.

It is thought that the pagans of Menouthis held out the longest, and when eventually the town did fall, the Christians destroyed the idols – including the naos – rather than looting them. But the discovery of these pieces means that the knowledge contained on the naos is not lost. It bears testimony to the way in which Greek and Roman ideas about astrology owed much to the ancient Egyptians, and has brought to light new mythological creatures and new hieroglyphics which will help scholars gain fresh insight into the thinking of Egypt's priests. It also confirms the view that the ancient Egyptians understood religion as a complex mix of cosmology, biology and supernatural forces, and while belief in the latter has faded, their expertise in astronomy still resonates clearly today ■

Based on a lecture by Professor Jean Yoyotte for an international conference in Paris next month

WHO THEY WORSHIPPED AND WHY





Osiris was the most important of the Egyptian gods. He was the ruler of the living and dead and, like the Nile with which he was associated, was the bringer of fertility and destruction to the land. The Egyptians believed him embodied in the person of their pharaohs, making them sacrosanct, rulers by divine right. Whoever harmed the pharaoh harmed Egypt. All men became Osiris when they died.

Apis (left) was the bull of Memphis, associated with the Nile and the fertility of the land. The Egyptians worshipped him as the soul of Osiris. When a bull calf was born with the recognisable mark of Apis, he was installed in the temple at Memphis and venerated as a god. The identification of the new bull marked the death of the old, who was ntually drowned and mummified. –

Serapis In Ptolemaic times, Osiris and Apis were fused into this single new god. Despite his lineage, his attributes were less Egyptian than Greek, more connected with wealth than fertility. He was most often sculpted with the characteristic flowing lines of Greek sculpture, with a basket of plenty on his head. He was the ideal patron for Alexandria, a Greek city built on Egyptian soil, whose life force was wealth and trade. The Temple of Serapis in Canopus was, next to the Serapeion in Alexandria, his most important centre of worship.

Isis (top left) was the wife of Osiris, her cult inextricably linked with his. To the Egyptians she was 'the Mother of God, Queen of Heaven'. No other deity in ancient times was ever closer to human concerns or more ready to appear in person. Her appeal was for the weak – slaves, the poor, mothers anxious for their children. Isis worship spread right across the civilised world, including Britain. In Menouthis, the cult of Isis flourished, an open secret, long after the Christian Church had stamped out its rivals elsewhere.

Mythology of Canopus

Greeks who had never stepped outside their city walls knew of Canopus. Or thought they did. It depended on how much they believed in their own myths.

When Zeus fell in love with the nymph Io, he transformed her into a white heifer to shield her from the wrath of Hera. But Hera sent a gadfly to torment the poor girl. Maddened by its sting, Io fled across land and sea until she came to Canopus and safety. There she gave birth to a son, Epaphus.

Canopus appears again when 5th-century Athenians found it painful to believe that a beautiful Helen could have been an adulterous Helen. They came up with another version of the tale, which left her blameless. Hers was still the face that launched a thousand ships, but she never went to Troy. Hermes had spirited her away to Canopus. There she was forced to sit out the siege of Troy, patiently waiting to explain all to her husband. The woman who fled with Paris was nothing but a phantom created by Hera (her again).

And Herakleion? Some have associated it with the home of the legendary Thonis, caretaker of the Canopic delta. The servant of King Proteus of Egypt, his job was to show hospitality to all who were shipwrecked on his shore. He was not so hospitable to Helen. In yet another version of her story, she washed up here with Paris, only for Thonis to arrest her for adultery. Thanks to him, she stayed in Egypt and never saw the towers of Troy. **PE**





Top right: the meeting between the nymph Io, transformed into a heifer by Zeus, and Prometheus. Right: a model of the wooden horse at Troy

LEFT, TOP AND BOTTOM: CORBIS. RIGHT, TOP: MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY. RIGHT, BOTTOM: SONIA HALLIDAY PHOTOGRAPHS. CENTRE, TOP AND BOTTOM: PAUL BRYANT

LOST CITIES: LIFESTYLE

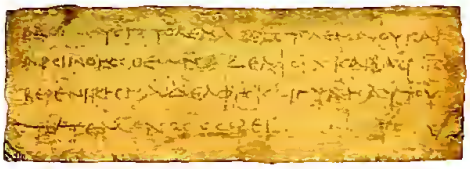
This impression of tha Tempia of Sarapis at Caaopas, by tha Egyptologist Jaaa-Claade Golvia, is based on dascriptioas by Romea writers aad reseerch iato the Greek-styia architactare of tha region. Famed for dispeasiag oracies, the tampia was tha most importent placa ia the aree. It would heve beea e bustiiag sociei ead reiigious ceatre, with shops aad stalls, priests end soothseyars talliag fortaaes, aad paopia aagegad ia rituei bathing. Goddio's discovary of the head of the statae of Sarapis hes mede this recoastructioa, ia which Serapis takes cantre stege, possible for the first time. Opposite, left: this thia gold piequa, from tha tampia's origiaal foaadation stoaa, carrias e dedicetioa by the thaa pharaoh, Ptolemy III. It can ba seea ia the British Maseam. Right: e small stoae head of Serapis also foaad by Goddio's team



LA DOLCE VITA ON THE DELTA



The Canopic towns became a playground for the rich. And then as now, a heady mixture of sun, sand and sex caused plenty of scandal. But it wasn't all about living the high life: religion was crucial, and the sacred temples were star attractions. By Penelope Evans





It would be impossible to picture the towns of the Canopic delta – the small triangle of land pointing out into the Mediterranean Sea – without mention of Alexandria. The capital city of the Ptolemaic kings and queens, more Greek than Egyptian, Alexandria was "the supreme city of the civilised world, unmatched for its elegance and wealth", wrote the Greek historian Diodorus Siculus. Inevitably some of the city's wealth filtered out into the surrounding suburbs, which included the towns of Canopus, Menouthis and Herakleion, little more than 12 miles distant.

Most of Herakleion's importance as a port was lost after the building of Alexandria's double harbour. But accounts detailing activities in Canopus and Menouthis make them seem startlingly alive, even familiar.

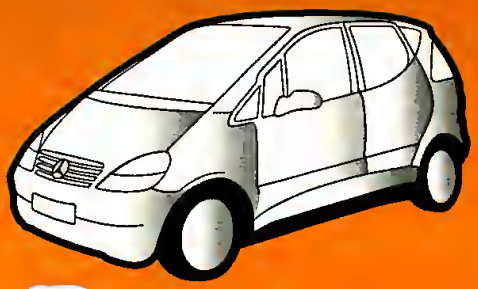
By the 3rd century AD, the court of the Ptolemies had long been replaced by that of the Roman governors. But Canopus remained what it had always been, a fashionable seaside resort for the capital, frequented by the rich and famous. With its sea breezes and white beaches – Plutarch harrumphed his disapproval of Mark Antony frolicking here with Cleopatra – the town provided a welcome escape from the stifling cities.

The journey would have been unusually easy for the period. The main road east out of Alexandria converged with a canal flowing to the coast between Canopus and Menouthis. It was then only a short cruise onwards to the towns with their twin temples of Serapis and Isis.

The boat trip alone was enough to exercise certain writers of the time. Still short of Canopus, the canal was lined with inns and terraces offering a taste of pleasures to come, particularly at festival time.

Apparently there was more to do in these places than simply eat and drink and rest. The geographer ➤➤➤

MAIN ILLUSTRATION EDITIONS ERGANCE CENTRE BRITISH MUSEUM RIGHT HILTI FOUNDATION/DISCOVERY CHANNEL/FRANCK GODDIO



easyRentacar.com

the world's first Internet-only car rental company

Best value car rental around!



book now exclusively @

www.easyRentacar.com

Prices include comprehensive insurance with a £500 excess (option to reduce excess available), daily allowance of 75 miles in the UK and 100 km on the continent. Sites open 7am-11pm local time

Open NOW in : **London Bridge . Glasgow . Manchester . Nice . Malaga . Barcelon**

Birmingham (opens 24th August, book now!)

Coming soon: **Paris . Amsterdam . Madrid**

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW



The intricate Palestrina mosaic (above), believed to be from the early 1st century BC, gives a unique view of the Nilotic landscape of the time. Housed in Italy's Museo Prenestino, it originally formed part of the floor of a building in the Italian town now known as Palestrina. The exotic animals in the upper section appear to represent the valley's southern regions; the foreground, the delta. Various boats ply the river, and magnificent secular and religious buildings line the banks. Scholars believe it was intended to characterise the country during the annual Nile flood. The Greek geographer and historian Strabo (66BC-AD24) found the scene at flood time striking: "the whole country... becomes a lake... cities of considerable size and villages... resemble islands." The sections below are thought to depict the Canopic canal, busy with boats and revellers travelling between Alexandria and Canopus. The banks were bordered by beautiful walled gardens, and rich Alexandrians would place family tombs there. Strabo described it as charming, sensual and atmospheric; the emperor Hadrian recreated it in Italy at his country villa.







Above: based on a 1st century BC mosaic (below left), this is what life on the canal leading to Canopus would have been like. The barges of the wealthy would have cruised past the rowdy taverns and terraces, the 'rejoicing places'

Strabo describes men and women "whose only plan is to fire each other up, promiscuous as if they were already in Canopus". It was the women especially who caught the eye of the writer Eunapius, this time at Menouthis, behaving in a way that was "frenzied, unrestrained, completely without modesty".

But the towns of the Canopic delta offered more than just opportunities for guilt-free encounters during the chaos of a festival. There was a calmer life to be enjoyed if you were rich enough to afford it, reminiscent of expensive resorts even today. You could eat well in the town, in hostels celebrated for their cuisine. The region's shellfish were famous, and the pastries legendary.

Women came to see and be seen, to scoop up the latest fashion in wigs and make-up, to buy medicines, even love potions. The favourite scents of the ancient world were manufactured here, the most famous being "Cypros", named for the birthplace of Aphrodite, with all the associations that would lend to the wearer. And, of course, there were the great temple sanctuaries.

THE WOMEN WERE 'UNRESTRAINED, COMPLETELY WITHOUT MODESTY'

While the ancient writers dwelt upon the excesses of festival time – readers being every bit as eager then for a touch of scandal as they are today – they could not ignore the quieter, year-round activities centred on the cults of Isis and Serapis.

By the 3rd century AD, both temples were celebrated for dispensing oracles, and people consulted them to the degree that they could afford. Probably beyond the reach of most were the famous sleep cures with their revelatory dreams. But there was always the chance to buy papyrus tickets supplying yes or no answers to simple questions. Merely attending the festivals, catching a glimpse of the images of the gods, would have brought a suppliant closer to the object of his or her request.

The purpose of attending was always the same: to ask for help in an uncertain world. The problems people brought tended to be close to home, even intimate. Offerings, such as a votive lamp or statue, often bore the content of the request: prayers for a sick child, a safe homecoming for a relative. And most often directed at Isis, pleas for an end to sterility. Stelae, small tablets of stone, were engraved with eyes and ears, requesting the god's attention by lending both.

The true beneficiaries, of course, were the inhabitants of Canopus and Menouthis. A constant stream of visitors and the need to accommodate them would have created an entire industry. Priests, hoteliers, souvenir sellers, statue makers, temple sweepers, stallholders, all profited from the spiritual fame of the Canopic towns.

But there was another, crueller, side to paganism. It was in Canopus that in AD312 a young mother, Athanasia, and her three teenage daughters were beheaded for their Christian beliefs. Also executed were a doctor – Cyr of Alexandria – and his soldier companion, John. They had come to keep the women steady in their faith.

To those putting them to death, it must have seemed that nothing could undermine the vast temple cults that had brought prosperity and fame to their towns. Two centuries later, the relics of St Cyr and St John were installed in the church at Menouthis, after the last traces of Isis worship had been stamped out forever ■

ILLUSTRATION: JEAN-CLAUDE GOLVIN/EDITIONS ERRANCE PHOTOGRAPHS: SCALA PICTURE LIBRARY

Around the Globe for just £39.95.



The Atlas Case.
12 wines from around the world packed and delivered free to your door.



the wine corporation

Call our Wine Brokers free

08000 284 289

Lines open 7 days a week

ATLAS CASE

Paarl Heights Chenin Blanc South Africa, 1999 • Chateau la Mouliere Sauvignon Blanc, Cotes de Duras France, 1999 • Banrock Station Colombard/Chardonnay Australia, 1999 • Soni Ridge Californian Chenin/Chardonnay California, 1998 • Cincinnato Bianco DOC Cori Italy, 1999 • Jacques & Francois Lurton Pinot Gris Argentina, 2000 • Dulac Cabernet/Syrah France, 1999 • Bodegas Torroja, Castillo Paramio Reserva Spain, 1995 • Bodegas Borsao, Castillo de Borgia Tinto Spain, 1999 • Sutter Home Zinfandel California 1997 • Brookfield Soft Red Australia, 1999 • Azienda Agricola Felline, Rosso del Salento Italy, 1999

'Atlas' Case limited stocks - Order Now HC3

Please deliver the Mixed Case ☐ *C00165MH, All Red Case* ☐ *C00166RH, or the All White Case* ☐ *C00167WH*
As an introductory offer for the special price of just £39.95 inc P & P (offer limited to one case per household)

Post FREE to: The Wine Corporation, FREEPOST MID20262, Northampton NN3 8WA. Or Fax free to: 08000 284 290

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Initial _____ *Surname* _____
PLEASE DELETE AS APPROPRIATE

Address _____

_____ *Postcode* _____

Daytime Tel. _____ *Evening Tel* _____
FOR SPEEDY AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY, PLEASE GIVE A CONTACT NUMBER

E-mail _____

I enclose a cheque for £39.95 payable to 'The Wine Corporation'.
Or please debit my ☐ *Visa* ☐ *MasterCard* ☐ *Switch* ☐ *Connect* ☐ *Delta Card*

Card no.

Expiry date ____ / ____ / ____ *Issue No.* (*Switch only*)

Signature _____ *Date* ____ / ____ / ____
I AM OVER 18

Deliveries outside mainland UK are subject to a surcharge - please call for details. We aim to deliver within five working days. Offer available while stocks last, we reserve the right to replace any bottle with wine of equal or greater value. It is a legal requirement for you to be 18 years or over to purchase alcohol in the UK.

Data Protection. Your personal details will be entered onto the Wine Corporation's database for the purposes of fulfilling your order. If you do not wish to receive any further information regarding The Wine Corporation offers please tick the box ☐

The Wine Corporation Limited is registered in England No. 3631410. Reg. Office: Edgemead House, 13-14 Edgemead Close, Round Spinney, Northampton, NN3 8RG.

Visit us on the internet at www.TheWineCorporation.com

BEST OF TIMES
WORST OF TIMES

It was 1967, year of the summer of love. But for Dan Topolski, it was all work-outs and no play. Now 55, the international oarsman and coach recalls the thrill of competing in the world's most famous boat race. By Danny Danziger. Portraits: Tim Hall



Oxford in the '60s was sex, drugs and rock'n'roll, and it was very uncool to be keen on anything sporty. So for my first two years nobody knew I rowed. I'd sit around with my mates and listen to music, and talk till six or seven in the morning, then I'd slip away, ostensibly to bed, but I was actually going down to the river. And rowing was a great discipline, it kept me on the straight and narrow. Once I was selected for the first team I was in bed by 10.30pm, and there was no drinking. The sacrifices were self-imposed, nobody was checking, I wanted to do it.

Oxford's reputation in the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race was as losers – there'd only been eight wins in 50 years. But Oxford had won for the past two years, and there was a new confidence and a good spirit, and we were looking for three in a row. For six months, we trained six days a week, for four or five hours a day, with the legendary Oxford coach Jumbo Edwards. We did most of our training at Wallingford, the longest stretch of river on the Thames between two locks. It was just the worst way to prepare: it's a good long distance, but it is narrow, with bends and twists, and when the water is running fast, which it does in the winter after rain, it's difficult to get round the corners.

It's one 20-minute event that I think defines you for the rest of your life, win or lose

For the last two weeks before the race, we stayed at the Star and Garter hotel in Richmond. We had to dress up in black tie every night, and there'd be these guests coming to dinner who were friends of Jumbo's, old blues. I remember Sir Eugen Millington-Drake coming and regaling us with the boat races of 1903, and all of us just exhausted and wanting to go to bed, but having to smile and be polite.

The day of the race dawned grey and murky. You go into a sort of daze at this point, you find it difficult to focus on anything, and there is a real sense of anxiety. We went for an early-morning paddle to get rid of the tension. We then climbed on the bus and came down to the tideway where we arrived to great cheers – crowds had already gathered, along with journalists and photographers in barges on the river. We forged our way through the crowds to the boathouse, looking like peacocks. Nowadays the rowers come in sneakers and jeans, but we were in our white trousers, little peak caps, scarves, blazers, dark blue ties and white shirts, and white sweaters with our initials on. We went into the changing room and started warming up.

You go out on the water about three-quarters of an hour before the race. The challenger goes afloat first, so Cambridge went out before us. And they were terrifying: huge, good-looking, and rowing really well. We paddled down river towards Wandsworth for a warm-up, and for a moment we were away from all the crowds, so it was quiet. Each of us was in our own little world, and nobody was talking, we were lost in our thoughts really, preparing ourselves mentally and emotionally for this test. We weren't used to the big arena like that: we were just kids, and this was the biggest thing that had ever happened to us.

And then we came down again to the stake boat at Putney. People were shouting, and we heard little snatches: "You're going to lose, Oxford," or "Come on Cambridge." It really is quite a hubbub, and there was a helicopter in the sky, and that was quite a shock.

Finally we came down on to the start. Sweaters were passed down the boat to the umpire in the stake boat as we stripped off. The tide was coming in very fast, so the oars had to be turned the opposite way to the stream – which is a tricky manoeuvre – otherwise they would catch. The stomach was churning now, and the anxiety was huge.

"When you're straight and ready," the umpire said, "I will say, 'Are you ready? Go.' Like that. Get ready please." The coxes' hands were going up and down: if one was ready then the other wasn't. Finally, both coxes had their hands down, and the umpire said: "Are you ready... ?"

Once that flag comes down and the first stroke has gone, you're into the battle, and all the nerves have disappeared. It's very physical. But at the same time, so much of it is what's in the head. If that desire and hunger to win is there, nothing will come between you and victory.

We both went pretty fast that first couple of miles, and it was a battle for about a mile and a half, very much side by side. We started to edge ahead by Hammersmith Bridge, and pulled away to about a length and a half. But halfway through the race, the water kicked up very badly and we moved out of the stream towards the bank. I could see Cambridge coming back, and I called to the cox to get us back out again into the fast water. We came back into the middle, took the best stream, and as we came out of the rough water and round the top corner of Chiswick Eyot, we were rowing with greater and greater strength. We were two lengths ahead then, and there was such pleasure and euphoria watching our opponents falling further behind – the triumph was wonderful to taste in those last three or four minutes. We knew we had it. Cambridge weren't in the race anymore, and we were able to get our way home pretty easily. We finished 3½ lengths ahead: all that training bad paid off. Such relief.

And then we cheered the losers, threw our cox into the water, and went into the changing rooms where they had some champagne set up, and we let rip.

This was a big stage, and there's something unique about victory on a big stage. You're so wet behind the ears, and you're thrust into this limelight with so little maturity and experience to do a man's job. It's one 20-minute event which I think defines you for the rest of your life, win or lose. It's a bit like people who've climbed Everest.

We lost the next year. Partly there was complacency – there were a few of us back from the year before, and I'm afraid we just thought we were invincible, so we didn't train with quite the same hard-nosed professionalism. But there was also a last-minute panic from Jumbo, who started changing everything, and it unsettled us, which was a great shame really. I feel all my coaching years were to pay back for having lost that race ■

Get the revolutionary new Flex - and the tummy you've always wanted.

Flex is absolutely unique. It's like no other muscle toning system you've ever seen before and it's clinically proven to work. This entirely new technology exercises all the stomach muscles - it's the new, smart way to a firmer, flatter stomach and a sexier body.

Clinically proven results

Flex uses clinically proven technology. In trials, 9 out of 10 users reported an improvement in firmness, and 8 out of 10 reported an improvement in flatness and there was a 20% improvement in muscle strength. Depending on your size and fitness level, you could start to feel a difference after only 10 days and see significant results in 4 to 8 weeks. Used with regular exercise and healthy eating, you can look forward to a firmer stomach, increased muscle strength and a better looking body.

Flex, available only from Slendertone, is designed to be so easy to use it will become part of your life. You'll use it because it works - and it works because you'll use it.

Easy to use



There are no fiddly wires, just a lightweight breathable belt. Simply wrap the belt around your waist, press the start button and Flex starts stimulating the nerves which cause all the stomach muscles to contract - even those that are not directly under the belt.

Sleek, compact and portable

Flex is small, sleek and portable - so you can use it just about whenever - and wherever - you want. While you're relaxing, at home, while using other equipment at the gym or even at work.

Smart training system

An "intelligent control" feature and built-in memory moves you through four exercise programmes and prompts you to increase your exercise levels for optimum results. The Flex system motivates, sets targets and includes a personal planner to record and co-ordinate your diet and exercise programme. And you can rely on our support - simply phone us or visit our website for advice and help when you need it. Flex could change the way you look - and the way you feel.

Easy payments and money-back guarantee

You can get the new Flex in three easy monthly instalments of just £52. And if, after using Flex for 8 weeks after purchase, you're not satisfied that it can help you get a firmer stomach call the Slendertone Careline and we'll give you your money back. To order or for more information, call the Careline now with your credit card details, quoting ref FFFAC/SUT2/00, or complete and return the coupon below.

Flex works

- *C.S.I. technology™* - Flex uses unique C.S.I. technology (patent pending) developed by Slendertone, a world leader in muscle toning.
- *Nerve stimulation* - This breakthrough technology produces muscle contractions by stimulating the nerves which control the muscle fibres. Pads are fixed to the belt and there are no wires.
- *Targets all the muscles* - Flex targets the nerves where they are closest together - between the ribcage and the hips - for a highly effective, totally safe stimulation of all the abdominal muscles at the same time.
- *Harder working* - Flex works your muscles harder for you by producing strong and deep yet comfortable muscle contractions.

0845 070 77 77
www.slendertone.co.uk

Get regular Flex and the tummy you've always wanted.



If you suffer any illness or ongoing medical condition, please consult your doctor before using Flex.

To order, simply complete this coupon and post in an envelope with your payment to:
Slendertone UK, 12 Fenton Way, Southfields, Basildon SS15 6TY
Please allow up to 7 working days for delivery.

YES, I would like to order a Slendertone Flex for women for just £150 plus £5.95 p&p (total £155.95).

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Tel. No. E-mail

☐ I am ordering for myself ☐ I am ordering as a gift

Please tick method of payment:
A single payment of £155.95.
☐ By cheque payable to Slendertone UK (please write your cheque guarantee card number on the back).
☐ By credit/debit card. Please debit my Mastercard/Visa/Switch/Delta for £155.95.

By instalments.
☐ By cheque. I enclose 3 cheques payable to Slendertone UK for £52 each, dated at monthly intervals. (Please write your cheque guarantee card number on the back of each cheque).
☐ By credit/debit card.
Please debit my Mastercard/Visa/Switch/Delta for 3 payments of £52 each dated at monthly intervals.

Acct/card No. (Switch only)

Card start date ___/___ Expiry date ___/___ Switch issue no. ___/___

Signature

£5.95 p&p applies to UK only. For non UK international courier delivery £15.95.
☐ Please send me more information on Flex for Women.
☐ Please send me more information on Flex for Men.
If you would prefer not to receive information from other companies with products or services which may be of interest to you, please tick this box ☐

FFFAC/SUT2/00



SLENDERTONE
FLEX
Abdominal Training System



Pashmina & Pearls

Only £99 +P&P

You will look the height of elegance wearing this stunning Pashmina and Pearls from The Cashmere Company.

Delicately woven in cashmere and silk this distinctive pashmina is beautifully soft to the touch. It is embroidered with an elegant leaf motif and finished with exquisite freshwater pearls, adding an extra touch of luxury.

This beautiful Pashmina and Pearls will add style and elegance to any outfit and is available only from The Cashmere Company.

To order your Pashmina and Pearls, call 01525 280 888 now!

Call us now quoting reference O-STIM-208 on

01525 280888

or fax your order with credit card details to:

01525 280884

The Cashmere Company

TOUCH OF LUXURY

PO Box 694, Woburn, MK17 9GA

Actual size of shawl 70 x 200cm

THE CASHMERE COMPANY, PO Box 694, Woburn, MK17 9GA

Style	Qty.	Total
Pashmina & Pearls		
	PLUS P&P	£4.95
	TOTAL	

Please make cheques/PO payable to: The Cashmere Company

Please write your name & address on the back of your cheque

Or Please debit my credit / debit card...

Amex ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Switch ☐

Switch Issue No ☐☐ Expiry Date ☐☐☐☐

Card Number

Signature

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____ Initials _____

Address _____ Daytime Telephone No.

Postcode _____

O-STIM-208

By Order of the Receiver
Re. EASTERN KAYAM OCM LTD
(in administrative receivership)

Since 1836

- **Foremost producers of handmade carpets in the East**
- **Leading suppliers to Department Stores and Decorators in the West**

Former suppliers to Harrods, Selfridges, Liberty's, Debenhams, House of Fraser, Bentalls and hundreds of other major Department & High Street Stores throughout the United Kingdom







Immediate Liquidation of Entire Legendary Stock of
ORIENTAL CARPET MANUFACTURERS OCM
The Largest and Most Important Oriental Carpet Company in the World

MASSIVE CLEARANCE SALE
WEMBLEY ORIENTAL CARPET WAREHOUSE

OCM's vast 135,000 sq. ft. Palace of Industry Wembley headquarters ordered by the Official Receiver to be cleared with utmost urgency

OPEN TODAY SUNDAY 10am-4pm NEXT SATURDAY 10 am-5 pm
NEXT SUNDAY 10am-4 pm and HOLIDAY MONDAY 10am-5pm

Then open EVERY Saturday 10am-5pm & Sunday 10am-4pm until premises are cleared *(closed to public on weekdays)*

Huge Number of Oversizes to 25'x14'
Hundreds of Runners, all lengths/widths
also Rounds, Ovals, Unusual Sizes etc



Magnificent Decorative Egyptian Zeigler 10'x7' List Price £3600 Sale Price **£1650**



Exquisite Chinese Aubusson Needlepoint 9'x6' List Price £1100 Sale Price **£360**



Superb Vegetable Dye Ersari Sunburst 8'x7' List Price £2400 Sale Price **£1150**

Liquidation Sale Prices start at just £10



Sumptuous William Morris Design Kaimuri Agra 10'x8' List Price £3750 Sale Price **£1510**

60% - 80% off
listed book values of all items to ensure clearance of the premises in shortest possible time

EASTERN KAYAM OCM
THE PALACE OF INDUSTRY, ENGINEERS WAY, WEMBLEY STADIUM

(Directions: at Wembley Stadium, turn off Empire Way into Engineers Way; from Wembley Park Underground Station turn right off Olympic Way into Engineers Way just before Stadium - Follow our Signs) **Easy Forecourt Parking**

Telephone: 020 8903 8585

All items illustrated subject to availability
Payments: cash, personal cheques, major credit cards
All Sales Final
All Sale Prices Inclusive of VAT









FREE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION









ALL YEAR ROUND

For only £23 you and a partner can STAY FREE in over 470 hotels as often as you like for 12 months

Treat yourself to a break whenever you choose, wherever you choose - as often as you choose. With the Travel Offers Directory and Privilege Hotel Pass you can take as many breaks as you wish over twelve months* with FREE accommodation at over 470 hotels throughout the UK, the Channel Islands and Ireland.

How it works For just £23 (+p&p) you will receive the full colour 100 page Hotel Directory from Travel Offers, along with the exclusive Privilege Hotel Pass.

This allows you and a partner to STAY FREE in the 470+ hotels featured in the Directory as often as you like - throughout a full twelve months*.





You can use your pass at weekends or during the week - for one night or more. Your accommodation, a twin or double room, is FREE - all you have to do is pay for meals (dinner & breakfast) from as little as £12 per person per day to over £30 for award winning luxury. Plus of course any extras such as drinks, phone calls, etc. The cost of dinner and breakfast at each hotel is shown in the Directory.

The Travel Offers Directory is now in its 5th year with thousands of satisfied customers using the Privilege Hotel Pass. Don't miss this opportunity to order yours!

Where you can stay The hotels participating in this offer are situated in some of the most impressive locations throughout England, Scotland, Wales, the Channel Islands, Northern Ireland and Ireland - with most having good AA, RAC or Tourist Board ratings. Many have awards for their cuisine or boast top leisure and sports facilities. Seaside, countryside, villages and towns - from splendid country houses to traditional inns and cosy family run hotels. The choice is yours. Take a look at a selection of hotels shown here and the savings you can make on just one night's stay.

For only £23 you get

The Privilege Hotel Pass

giving 12 month's FREE hotel accommodation for two - just pay for meals for each night's stay (dinner & breakfast)

The Travel Offers Directory

100 full colour pages & price list giving the cost of dinner & breakfast at each hotel

Choice of Over 470 Hotels

throughout the UK, The Channel Islands & Ireland:

England	311
Channel Islands	13
Wales	48
Scotland	86
N.Ireland & Ireland	16

Unlimited Breaks

STAY FREE as often as you like throughout a full 12 months weekdays or weekends for 1, 2, 3 nights or more

Just think of the savings you can make in a year!

TO ORDER BY TELEPHONE CALL

Lines open 7 days a week, 8.30am-9.00pm

08700 774 775

www.travel-offers.co.uk

TRAVEL OFFERS HOTEL DIRECTORY

Or complete and return the coupon

Allow up to 14 days for delivery. Closing date for orders 30th November 2000 Use BLOCK CAPS

Code	Hotel Directory & Privilege Hotel Pass	Qty	Price	Total
QCD	*12 months free accommodation for 2 adults*		£23	
	Post and packing only £2 for any quantity			£2
	I enclose cheque/postal order payable to Travel Offers Ltd		**TOTAL**	

Print your name and address on back of cheque (orders from Republic of Ireland - credit cards only)

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

Postcode

Tel N° (Day)

or debit my: Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Switch ☐ Delta ☐

Expiry date / Switch issue no ☐ Switch valid from /

Cardholder's signature

TSTM 8

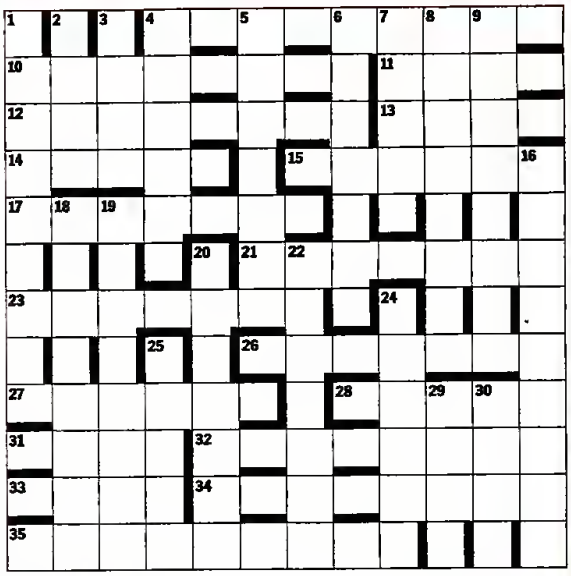
- Savings shown are on a ONE NIGHT stay for two adults
- The room is FREE – you must pay for dinner & breakfast
- * At many hotels this offer is not available for some Bank Hols. All hotel bookings are subject to availability
- Offer applies in UK & Rep of Ireland only

Data protection: Travel Offers Ltd may make names & addresses available to other companies tick here if you prefer not to receive mailings ☐

Send to: Travel Offers Ltd, PO Box 6, Kettering, Northants NN15 5JW

Brain Power

USE IT OR LOSE IT!



Name

Address

.....

Send your solution, postmarked no later than next Saturday, to Mephisto 2087, The Sunday Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E98 1SH. The first five correct solutions opened win £20

Mephisto 2087

Tim Moorey

Across

4 Difficult bank course not completed in German city (9)
10 A soldier making comeback admits intention to become big fish (8)
11 It showed inability to see one repeatedly (4)
12 Peruvian music in the form AB-A! (8)
13 Look around river for fleet (4)
14 Nut is about to break into prison! (5)
15 Outwardly cheerful and fine minister (6)
17 Colonnade in European manner (7)
21 Month with one Public Library and a book of eight texts (7)
23 Leaders in three-day eventing sharing new reins between them (7, two words)
26 Barrack endlessly increased working (7)
27 Bit of rowing ending in hullabaloo with absolute fury (6)
28 King called back with grumble (5)
31 Girl not versed in bed! (4)
32 Army Order put round, reject it in short from the start (8, two words)
33 Some walnut and yew regularly turned for vessel (4)
34 Old musical instrument held back by number before a certain time (8)
35 See, for example, New Age leader of church singing in Glasgow (9)

Down

1 Waste companies: one's in a growing business in Latin America! (9)
2 Bank book getting flipping attention (4)
3 Refuse to fill up (4)
4 Sleep-inducing work one's swallowed (6)
5 Nothing very big about wing in ornamental works (7)
6 Heard illumination in the pub? One's belief is misguided (7)
7 Reportedly elated to be flattened! (5)
8 Common once for person to support one in some areas (8)
9 Coach incorrect on ringing sound (8)
16 Get tea through me — my charges are small (9)
18 Natural asphalt processed in quantities? Not a sufficient quantity (8)
19 Cut lead worker tending to fill out greatly (8)
20 Lot about equipment in vessel (7)
22 Eccentricity in covering ending (7)
24 No end of trouble, indeed anger for persons summoned to US jury service (6)
25 Brown American on cue showing up in underground tunnel (5)
29 A punishment reduced for smelly creature (4)
30 Right fool I'd shed for loose living (4)

Chambers Dictionary is the reference for all solutions except proper nouns

Solution to Mephisto 2085:
Across: **1** Pimple **7** Actor **11** Rail **12** Opuscule **13** Arseniate **15** Arvo **19** Tester-totter **17** Whipbird **19** Cordless **22** Acroamatical **24** Loud **26** Patiently **27** Solation **28** Ecce **29** Mneme **30** Nether
Down: **1** Practicalism **2** Misset **3** Pleated **4** Lone **5** Epirhematic **6** Quantisation **7** Asloop **8** Turrt **9** Olivenan **10** Record-player **14** Melocoton **18** Beignet **20** Lanele **21** Scatch **23** Ruble **25** Tene

Teaser 1979

Vision test

Danny Roth

George and Martha are on a mofonng holiday in a country where car registration numbers are similar to ours. Thus, a single letter is followed by a three-digit number, the first being non-zero, and then three more letters.

"That's interesting!" commented Martha, as she looked at the car in front. "If you replace each letter by its position in the alphabet – A=1, B=2 etc, up to Z=26, so that MAD would be 1314 and TAX would be 20124 – then the three-digit number is the square of the first letter, and the three letters at the end would be the cube of the first letter." "I find that difficult to see," said George jokingly

What was the registration number?

Send your solution, postmarked no later than next Saturday to Teaser 1979, The Sunday Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E98 1SJ. The first two correct solutions opened win £20

Solution to Teaser 1977: *268317*

Bookwise

Barbara Hall

Can you identify these characters named, or associated with, Percy? In which books do they appear and who are the authors?

1 Regulars at the Anglers' Rest were regaled with the saga of how Hypatia, after much opposition from her guardian – this cleric – won permission to marry young Ronald Bracy Gascoignes. The cleric and his formidable wife drank an elixir – Mulliner's Buck-U-Uppo – which induced extreme geniality.

2 He was an older brother of Ron, Fred, George and Ginny. They lived in The Burrow, and when Percy was made a prefect at Hogwart's School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, his parents bought him an owl.

3 Smart and spoffish, this pleasure-loving law student of Gray's Inn seldom dined at his own expense. His forte was organising parties, the latest a steam excursion to the Nore. Guests, including the daughters of Mrs Taunton and Mrs Bnggs, would dance quadrilles on the deck all day. But a storm blew up.

4 Citoyen Tinville presided over the Committee of Public Safety in Paris, trying anstrocrats. To his chagrin, he regularly received scraps of paper from a mysterious source, telling of the escape of royalists. These bore the device, in red, of a flower – this man's nom de plume.

5 He remarked to the Earl of Westmoreland: "O, that it could be proved That some night-tripping fairy had exchanged In cradle-clothes our children where they lay, And call'd mine Percy, his Plantagenet! Then would I have his Harry, and he mine."

6 Invited by Mrs James, his wife's friend, to a meat-tea, his evening was spoilt by her son, Percy, who kicked him three times on the shins, yelled and slapped Carne's face. He told an Italian gentleman he had a dirty face, then bounced Mr Birk Spooner's pocket watch on the ground like a ball, breaking the glass.

7 A specialist in catalepsy, this young doctor could not afford to establish himself in practice in London. Then the wealthy Blessington set him up in Brook Street, in return for most of his earnings. But Blessington was a criminal informer on the Worthingdon Bank Gang.

8 Aboard ship from Bangkok to Hong Kong was this fat, jolly proprietor of a travelling circus. His fat wife had with her a little Wa-wa monkey, which she introduced as Egbert, their youngest son. Her husband had been feeding their eldest, Percy, she explained. Percy was the biggest orang-utan in captivity. Their elephant, she added, was merely a friend.

Illustration by Jake



Chess

Raymond Keene

The Modern Defence (1 e4 g6 2 d4 Bg7 or 1 d4 g6 2 c4 Bg7) used to be reviled as ceding White too great a leeway in the centre. In the 1960s and 1970s, in particular, it was established by players such as Botvinnik and Bobby Fischer that the black side held plenty of resources. This defence later became popular with English grandmasters, including John Nunn and Jon Speelman. The latter has joined forces with the prolific author Neil McDonald to produce an accessible introduction to this complicated defence: The Modern Defence (Everyman Chess, £14.99).

White: Jonathan Parker; Black: Andrew Martin. British Championship, Hove, 1997. Modern Defence
1 d4 g6 2 c4 Bg7 3 e4 d6 4 Nc3 Nc6 5 d5 Nd4 6 Be3 c5 7 Nge2 Qb6 8 Nxd4 cxd4 9 Na4 Qa5+ 10 Bd2 Qc7 11 c5 Nf6 12 f3 0-0 13 Rc1 e6 14 Bb4 exd5 15 cxd6 Qd8 16 e5 Ne8 White has a glorious centre but lacks development so badly that he is in serious trouble. **17 f4 Ne4 18 Qxd4 Qh4+ 19 g3 Nxg3 20 hxg3 Qxh1 21 Kf2 h5 22 Rc3 h4 23 Bg2 Qh2 24 gxh4 Qxh4+ 25 Ke3 Rxe5+ 26 fxe5 Bh6+ 27 Kd3 Bf5+ 28 Be4 Bxe4+ 29 Ke2 Bf3+ 30 Kd3 Be2+ White resigns**

Spot the Move No 193: Black to move

From Zsuzsa Polgar-Seirawan, Monaco, 1993. Here Black missed the chance for a brilliant checkmate. What should he have played?

Solutions (first move only), postmarked no later than next Saturday, to Sunday Times Spot the Move No 193, 1 Pennington Street, London E98 1SE. The first correct answer drawn wins lunch for two, with e gless each of champagne, at Simply Simpson's, Simpson's-in-the-Strand.

Bridge

Boris Schapiro

West described his hand on the deal set out below as "made in Hell". Admittedly, his best line of defence was difficult, but both he *and his partner* could have done better.

	♠A942 ♡A92 ◇A6 ♣J743	
♠QJ8 ♡K103 ◇K72 ♣KQ92	N W E S	♠53 ♡J875 ◇J109854 ♣5
	♠K1076 ♡Q64 ◇Q3 ♣A1086	

Dealer, North, game all

West	North	East	South
–	1♠	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♠	All pass	

North should have signed off in Three Spades, but he wanted to end the rubber and go home – or that was his excuse, given after the hand was over!

West began with the three of hearts, and East's jack fell to South's queen. The ace of hearts was then cashed, and another heart lead put West back on play.

This time West led the two of diamonds. South played low from dummy and took East's eight with the queen. He cashed the ace, king of spades and unblocked the ace of diamonds. Now he threw West in again with a trump.

Despairingly, West exited with the two of clubs, so South won with the six! A low club was led, and once again West found himself on play. He had taken his third and last trick. Securely end-played, he had to lead back a club into South's tenace.

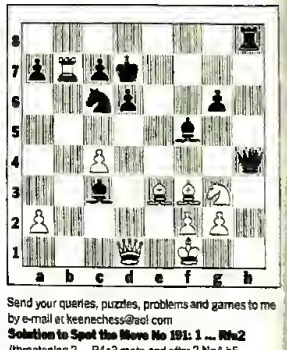
The major single mistake was down to East. He should have played the seven of hearts at trick one. This would have allowed West to jettison the king of hearts on South's ace and avoided the endplay in that suit.

With so many high cards, West would have done better by leading the king of hearts initially. Also, as the play went, West should have exited with a low club after winning his king of hearts. Although this gives away a trick in the suit, it leaves him with a safe exit card. Eventually the defence will come to a diamond trick!

This week's quiz: Is there a better alternative to Three Clubs with the South hand?

Solutions answers: 1 Percy, Bishop of Stretford; Gala Night; The Mr Mulliner Omnibus (Modehouse). Hutchinson **2** Percy Weasley, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (Rowling). Bloomsbury **3** Percy Noakes, The Steam Excursion, Sketches by Boz (Dickens) **4** Sir Percy Blakeney, The Scarlet Pimpernel (Orczy), Hodder & Stoughton **5** King Henry, King Henry IV Part 1 (Shakespeare) **6** Charles Foster, The Diary of a Nobody (Grossmith). Penguin **7** Dr Percy Trevelyan, The Resident Patient: Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes (Doyle). Penguin **8** Mr Wilkins, A Message of Convenience, The World Over – Short Stories (Maugham). Heinemann

Solution: Yes – I prefer Two No Trumps, especially if playing five-card major suit opening bids. North's One Club may be "preferred minor", ie, only three cards.



Send your queries, puzzles, problems and games to me by e-mail at keenechess@aol.com

Solution to Spot the Move No 191: 1 ... Rh2 (threatening 2 ... R4e3 mate and after 2 Ng4 h5 wins the knight).

The editor's decision is final in all cases. Competition winners' names may be found each week on the Crossword page in the Style section

space2 be smart

The WorkSmart Range

Working from home or just need somewhere to park your PC? Then Space2's WorkSmart Range has the answer. WorkSmart comes in a choice of colours and combines the functionality you need with all the style you want. Hardwearing, ergonomic and exceptionally affordable, WorkSmart is just one of the innovative ranges of desks and storage solutions from Space2.



HomeWorker 1200 £200 **ErgoChair £120**

The HomeWorker 1200 has ample space for keyboard and monitors up to 21" and is available in a choice of all birch effect, charcoal, blue or green TufTop. Price includes: unit as shown, 2 x CD racks, 2 x floor stands.

1200mm wide x 1453mm high x 798mm deep

ErgoChair in ply wood veneer available in a charcoal or blue 100% cotton padded seat.

Free delivery normally within 2 days



CornerOffice 1600 £280

Model is available in right sided as shown and left sided



SpaceSaver Filer £120

£5 discount when you buy on-line



HomeOffice 1600 £280

'no quibble' guarantee



SpaceSaver Tower £160

Call for a free brochure or visit our on-line store

Shop on-line at www.space2.com or call free on 0800 0 28 20 22

Phonelines open 9am - 6pm, 7 days a week.

space2 space2.com smart home office furniture

UT

BACK PAIN, ARTHRITIS, RHEUMATISM CAN CAUSE SLEEPING MISERY - NOW GET

THE BEST NIGHT'S SLEEP OF YOUR LIFE

ON THE TEMPUR® MATTRESS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

- Better quality sleep
- Relieves back pain and aching joints
- Reduces stress
- Can help to relieve arthritic and rheumatic conditions
- Relieves sciatic pain
- Pressure relief
- Hypo-allergenic
- Superior comfort to sprung, water or air mattresses



15 YEAR Limited Guarantee

SLEEP GOOD FEEL GOOD
The Sleep Council

SPACE
A development from the NASA Space Programme

CLINICALLY RESEARCHED

The **TEMPUR® Mattress** is made from a unique pressure relieving material that moulds to the exact shape of your body distributing pressure evenly, relieving back pain and aching joints.

Clinical Research shows that you may toss and turn 80% less on the **TEMPUR® Mattress** in comparison to other mattresses. Research also shows, due to this huge reduction in movement, your quality of sleep can be dramatically improved on the **TEMPUR® Mattress.**

RECOMMENDED BY OVER 25,000 MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Over 25,000 Medical Professionals worldwide recognise the benefits of the **TEMPUR® Mattress** and **Neck Pillow** and are recommending them to their patients suffering from sleep difficulties, back, joint or neck pain or people simply needing a better night's sleep!

ORDER YOUR TEMPUR® MATTRESS ON OUR *NO RISK* TRIAL!

The **TEMPUR® Mattress** can be tried in your own home for 60 nights on a 10% deposit. If, after 60 nights you do not feel the benefit of the **TEMPUR® Mattress** we will refund your deposit.

ORDER NOW ON FREEPHONE 0800 616135

Quote ref STIM 20/8

FREE VIDEO & SAMPLE



Please send me details on the **TEMPUR® Mattress and Pillow**

STIM 20/8

Name _____

Tel No _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Send to: Tempur UK Ltd.
FREEPOST (HA 4653)
Hayes, Middlesex
UB3 1BR

TEMPUR®
THE ULTIMATE IN PRESSURE RELIEF AND COMFORT



Photo: Ancrenaz/WWF-UK

Adoption Papers

Name: Melapi
Age: 1 year
Sex: Female

Adopt Melapi and help protect the future of the orang utan

The orang utan, one of man's closest relatives, is now facing extinction. Only ten years ago there were estimated to be 179,000 orang utans. Today less than 30,000 survive in the wild. And ironically it's the one thing that these beautiful creatures instinctively turn to that has provoked their downfall - the human race.

The tropical forests of Indonesia and Malaysia once offered orang utans like Melapi a natural habitat. Now where much of the lush foliage once stood, insufficient shelter remains. The trees have been destroyed to further the needs of Man. Without the refuge of the deep forests, orang utans are left open and vulnerable to other dangers such as illegal poaching. And with 94%* of the world's forests unprotected, we must act now.

You can help protect the future of the orang utan by adopting Melapi, for yourself or a friend

For just £2 a month, you can adopt Melapi. Your support will enable WWF to study how orang utans adapt to survive in their decreasing and degraded habitat. Our ultimate aim is to give the remaining orang utans the chance to live and breed in a safe and secure habitat, free from the dangers of deforestation and the threats that poaching brings.

For adopting Melapi, you'll receive a certificate, a picture of her, plus regular updates from WWF throughout the year. But above all, the understanding that your support is playing a significant and important role in securing a future for one of the world's most intriguing creatures. Your adoption of Melapi will also help WWF fund other vital primate projects.

Adopt Melapi for yourself or a friend, and you'll be helping WWF protect the future of one of mankind's closest relatives, the orang utan.

WWF-UK, FREEPOST, Panda House, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1BR

*Source: WWF 1996

DIRECT DEBIT

DIRECT Debit

INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY DIRECT DEBITS

Originator's Identification 9 9 6 4 7 3

1. Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch.

To The Manager _____ Bank or Building Society

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

2. Name(s) of account holder(s) _____
(from the top right hand corner of your cheque)

3. Branch sort code ___ - ___ - ___

4. Bank or Building Society Account Number _____

5. WWF-UK Reference Number _____ office use only

6 Instruction to your Bank or Building Society: Please pay WWF-UK Direct Debits from the account detailed on this Instruction to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.

Please return this completed form to: WWF-UK, FREEPOST, Panda House, Weyside Park, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1BR.

(Under the terms of the Data Protection Act, you have the right to advise us at any time if you do not want to receive further mailings from WWF or from organisations with whom we co-operate.)

Registered Charity No. 201707

PLEASE DO NOT DETACH

Adopt an orang utan

Please fill in this coupon and the Direct Debit instructions.

I would like to adopt Melapi for £2 a month ☐

If adopting for a friend, please write their name and address on a separate piece of paper.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel No: (inc STD) _____

CF19

A LIFE IN THE DAY OF RICHARD TOMLINSON



GRAZIA NERI/NETWORK

Richard Tomlinson, 37, was sacked by MI6 in 1995 for being 'unreliable', after working undercover in Bosnia and Russia. Jailed for six months for planning to write his memoirs, he has been expelled from France, Germany, Australia, the US and Switzerland, allegedly after pressure from MI6. Confidential files that he left on a cybercafe computer in Geneva in 1998 claimed that MI6 had planned to assassinate President Slobodan Milosevic and had a mole in Germany's central bank. Tomlinson lives alone in Rimini, Italy

I always get up really early, even if I went to bed ridiculously late the night before. I can never sleep beyond 7am. The first thing I do is drink masses of tea, a couple of pints, while I watch Sky TV and CNN. The silly girlie stuff on Italian TV is too boring. I have some cereal and always, always, an apple.

I used to go through my e-mails first thing. But in May the Italian police and two officers from Special Branch raided my flat and took away my computer. I can't afford a new one, so I hope they give it back soon. I can't even apply for jobs without a computer, and I had a job application for the commercial department at Ferrari all ready to go.

I'm out of the flat in good time to get to the language school. Every time I'm forced to shift to a new country I have to learn a new language. I'm not gifted, but I like it. And I was quite lucky this time: I paid a group rate but everyone dropped out, so I'm getting private tuition for the group price.

I joined MI6 because I liked living abroad – I like the challenge of a new culture. My life today is similar to when I was working for MI6, except now I'm fighting MI6 itself. I get busted by police, I get expelled, I have to watch out for surveillance.

Having to take security precautions is a bit annoying. I do antisurveillance routines. It's hard work, not like in the films, where the guy just turns his head round. It's a whole day's work. You need a cover, you have to recce the route, and you build in surveillance traps where you have a chance to look backwards without it being obvious. Tying a shoelace or using a subway is out of the question. I got worried once recently. I was on my way to Milan in my little BMW – it's got this brilliant computer with maps of the whole of Europe – and in the mirror I saw a white Polo with two men. I drove round and round a roundabout until I ended up chasing them. Then I called the police and they gave up.

It worries me to think that an intelligence service other than MI6 could seek me out. I worked on arms deals with Iran, infiltrating an Iranian organisation which MI6 believed was trying to buy chemical warfare equipment in Britain, and it would be scary to have any contact with the Iranians. But the worst disruption is getting my stuff confiscated. It's pure harassment – my former employers simply want to stop me working. Unlike Stella Rimington of MI5, I'm not even allowed to submit my autobiography for clearance. MI6 has used injunctions against British publishers – they've been scared off. I just want to put my side of the story. I want to show that I was unfairly dismissed and wasn't given a chance to put my case before an industrial tribunal. That's gut-wrenchingly unfair, and it's a dangerous precedent. I'd have no problem respecting my lifelong duty of confidentiality if they didn't abuse the Official Secrets Act to hide their mismanagement. The hypocrisy! If they just said, "We're MI6. Tough luck, Tomlinson," that would be fine. At my job interview I asked if they ever did anything illegal. They said: "Oh no, everything is done completely legally." It really gets my goat. I did say Princess Diana's driver, Henri Paul, was an MI6 contact. He had been for years. I'm sure in his file there is information that would be relevant to the French inquiry. I've already told them about his status – and I'd do so again, if requested. But I haven't done anything that's genuinely damaging to MI6. I'm not a traitor.

I've offered not to publish my book if I can show I was sacked unfairly. I've tried so hard to negotiate a solution, but MI6 just string me along. Now I've found a Russian publisher, and he's told MI6 where they can get off. Publication is the only way forward for me. Once my book is in the open, everyone will see I'm not revealing any incredible secrets.

I eat in for lunch – the same thing every day: Marmite sandwiches, gorgonzola cheese, then fruit and yogurt. There's nothing I hate more than shopping, so I buy the same things because I know where they are on the shelves. It's the same with clothes: I go into a shop and buy five things exactly the same. It drove one of my girlfriends mad. But if I'm eating out, I try all sorts of different cuisines. I really liked Serbian food when I was in Bosnia – all beef with spicy sauces and peppers.

I do some work in the afternoons. I e-mail people a lot. I encrypt virtually everything and tell my friends to get encryption programmes, as the Italian police have told me they're bugging my phone. I'm quite into the internet and technology.

In MI6, people joke about James Bond. You can't help but feel what a great job it is. It's fantasy meeting real life, just like the last Bond film. When he came out of the MI6 building in a speedboat, and the building blew up behind him, I cheered.

If I've got the afternoon free, I go for bike rides, about 50 to 80km, over the hills to San Marino. I like a lot of sports – hang-gliding, snowboarding, parachuting, scuba-diving – but I'm hopeless at any sport with a ball.

My evening meal is always chicken, pasta, those little cherry tomatoes and green pepper. I have the pasta *al dente*. No sauce, no butter, nothing. I don't have much of a social life. Being on the move means you don't develop a wide social net. I'm not lonely, though. Prison – I was in Belmarsh maximum-security jail, isn't that ridiculous? – taught me a huge amount of patience and tolerance, and I still feel thankful I can make a cup of tea. I don't get bored. Or lonely. You have to be pretty independent if you work for MI6.

In the evenings I work in a bar until 2am. I speak German most of the time – we get a lot of tourists there. I generally sleep okay, though I do go through phases where I don't. Do I have nightmares? I don't want to talk about that. Am I afraid? Sometimes I am concerned. But I think my case is too notorious for someone to decide to kill me. What really affects me is the idea of being for ever trapped in this life, without any prospect of returning to normality.

Interview by John Follain. Photograph by Massimo Sestini

© Times Newspapers Ltd, 2000. Transparencies submitted to THE SUNDAY TIMES MAGAZINE are sent at owner's risk and neither THE SUNDAY TIMES nor its agents accept any liability for loss or damage
Published and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, 1 Pennington Street, London E98 9XN, 020 7782 5000 Printed and bound by Polestar Greaves Ltd, a member of the Polestar Group. Editorial separations by News International Magazine Imaging. Advertising digital data by News Stream Limited. Not to be sold separately from THE SUNDAY TIMES in the UK. DELIVERY CHARGE 2p.

icon

Alf, Charlie and Nick doing a jelly sandwich. Shot on a Nikon compact 120ED £149.99 rrp

www.nikon.co.uk



You'll remember a great image for the rest of your life

Nikon



Heaters. From £27.

Cool looking, shower resistant coats to keep your kids warm.
Available in store or visit www.marksandspencer.com

MARKS & SPENCER